Rebecca Tanaka

Shelter Veterinarian

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Summary

Shelter veterinarian with 4 years in shelter medicine and high-volume spay-neuter surgery, now serving an open-admission shelter that takes in about 7,000 animals a year. Focused on population management, infectious disease control and fast, safe soft tissue surgery that moves animals to adoption sooner, with steady support for shelter staff and rescue partners.

Experience

02/2024 - Present
Portland, OR

Shelter Veterinarian

Columbia River Humane Society

Open-admission shelter with a 4-table surgery suite and a public spay-neuter program.

- Perform 25-35 spay-neuter surgeries per surgery day, totaling about **4,200** procedures a year.
- Set intake vaccination protocols and deworming steps that lowered canine respiratory cases 30% in 12 months.
- Run daily population management rounds on 250+ animals, clearing medical holds so average stay fell 6 days.
- Write forensic exam reports for 20+ cruelty cases a year and testify for county animal services when called.

06/2022 - 01/2024
Salem, OR

Associate Veterinarian

Willamette Spay & Neuter Clinic

Nonprofit high-volume spay-neuter clinic serving low-income households and rescues.

- Completed 6,500+ spay and neuter surgeries for dogs, cats and rabbits under ASV guidelines.
- Managed anesthesia for 40-patient surgery days using injectable protocols and technician monitoring.
- Extracted diseased teeth in about 10 dentistry cases a week for community and feral cats.
- Treated ringworm, parvovirus and panleukopenia for 5 partner rescues, with weekly isolation ward checks for infectious disease control.

01/2022 - 04/2022
Corvallis, OR

Shelter Medicine Extern

Corvallis Animal Shelter

Final-year shelter medicine externship at a county shelter.

- Performed 150 spays and neuters under supervision and examined 20 intake animals a day.
- Tracked shelter illness data for 3 months to spot an upper respiratory outbreak early.
- Vaccinated and microchipped about 300 incoming dogs and cats before transfer to adoption floors.

Skills

- Shelter Medicine
- Spay-Neuter Surgery
- Soft Tissue Surgery
- Population Management
- Infectious Disease Control
- Vaccination Protocols
- Anesthesia
- Dentistry
- Forensic Exams
- Compassion

Education

05/2022
Corvallis, OR

Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM)

Oregon State University

Veterinary Medicine

Certificates

06/2022

Oregon Veterinary License

Oregon Veterinary Medical Examining Board

07/2022

DEA Controlled Substance Registration

U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration