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Everything about GPRP (Guinea Pig Review Procedure)

What is **GPRP**?

GPRP is a shortcut for "guinea pig review procedure". Here the guinea pigs are thoroughly checked once a week. But you should also examine your pets every day and look more closely at every abnormality or inform the vet directly. **Please don't schedule the GPRP-day on a day where no veterinarian can be reached in case of emergency.**

What do I need to **check** on my guinea pig?

Here's a summary of what all should be **checked** on GPRP-day:

- **The weight**

Ideally, the weight should always be constant.
a deviation of + - 50 grams is not a cause for concern. To avoid fluctuations, you should always weigh the guinea pigs either before - or after feeding.

- **The fur**

Here the fur should be examined for wounds, sub-tenants (e.g. hair lice or mites) or other abnormalities such as dandruff.
In longhaired guinea pigs, the fur should always be trimmed to ground length or felt knots should also be removed here.

- **The eyes**

Are the eyes cloudy or are there foreign bodies in the eye such as hay?
Are the eyes tearing or constantly squeezed shut?

- **The nose and mouth area**

The nose shouldn't have crusts or other secretions, the same to the mouth area.

- **The teeth**

You can already guess inconsistencies in the jaw area from the incisors.
Are they broken off? Does the jaw hurt the guinea pig when palpated? Are the teeth equally worn and not discolored? Is the space between them clean?

- **The claws and paws**

If the claws are too long and the guinea pig cannot wear them down itself, they must be trimmed (nail clippers or nail scissors).
The guinea pig's foot pads should be inconspicuous, clean and free of crusts or swellings.



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- **The genitals and the butt**

The genitals and butt should be clean. With a buck/castrat, the perineal pocket must also be checked and cleaned if necessary.

In addition, here should also be paid attention to the little beans. Do they have a firm, normal shape? Are they too soft or even more fluid than normal? Is there any blood?

- **The body in general**

The abdomen should be palpated to see if it is soft/hard or distended. Guinea pigs that show pain in this area will squeal. This is then a sign, which must be taken seriously.

- Also, the spine and ribs should be palpated.

In general, thickening, lumps or other changes should be noticed and also treated.

- **The breathing**

Breathing should generally be normal, but due to the stress of the GPRP, it may of course be more rapid.

If breathing noises (such as rustling or rumbling) are present, this must be clarified urgently.

- **The behavior**

Observe each guinea pig and group for at least 10 minutes daily.

When guinea pigs are sick, they behave conspicuously. Be it more aggressive or apathetic than usual.

Is it walking and eating normally? How are the chewing movements? Is food, which is otherwise very popular, left lying around? Does the guinea pig drink more than normal?

- **The urine**

Guinea pigs that eat certain food, such as carrots or dandelions, urinate reddish urine. In case of diseases, such as bladder stones or inflammations, the guinea pigs squeal or scream when urinating. There is also bloody urine, which should be treated urgently.

General information about the **GPRP**

The examination is associated with stress for the guinea pig. Here you should connect the check with something positive: Be it with tasty herbs or even pea flakes.

With these weekly checks, diseases can be detected and treated faster and more effectively.

Guinea pigs are escape animals and don't notice diseases or notice them too late, therefore every abnormality should be taken seriously!