Veterinary Science
Preparatory Training for the Veterinary Assistant
Floron C. Faries, Jr., DVM, MS
Introduction to Handling & Restraining Animals

Floron C. Faries, Jr., DVM, MS
Objectives

- Discuss the safety purposes of proper restraint to prevent harm to the patient and handler
- Discuss the importance of proper restraint during veterinary treatment
Restraint

- Act of controlling movement and activity of an animal
Points of Consideration to Choose Method of Restraint

- Use minimum amount of necessary restraint.
- Minimize discomfort and distress on the animal.
- Perform safety for the animal and handler.
- Consider type of animal.
- Consider task to be performed.
- Consider disposition of animal.
- Consider availability of facilities.
Types of Restraint

- Psychological Restraint: Use knowledge of animal behavior.
  - Animal response to commands
  - Animal response to punishment
- Driving sheep to open gate of pen or lane
- Trimming/shoeing horse
- Distracting horse with neck slap
- Distracting horse with nose twitch
- Distracting cat with nose tap
- Distracting dog with voice commands
Physical Restraint: Use manual force
- Hands, arms, body, legs
- Collar, halter
- Rope – knots, hitches, ties
- Nose snare
- Cage
- Stock
- Chute (lane, head gate, squeeze)
Chemical Restraint: Use sedation

- Oral sedative
- Injectable sedative