

Pushing Our Limits – New and Innovative Okapi Training for Voluntary Medical Procedures





Using what was available to complete what we needed.

- Heart Scan
- Blood work

Limited time to devote to daily training.



Voluntary Cardiac Scan



Adult female with pregnancy induced congestive heart failure.

Historically disliked keeper initiated interactions

Tracking heart condition without sedation regularly, allowing improvement to be discovered and daily medications reduced

Blood Draw Training Session - El Jewar



Voluntary Blood Draw

Successfully collected from all okapi on first attempt.

Behavior completed in 1-3 months

Used samples to:

- make dietary supplement changes
- Obtain accurate picture of overall health
- Monitor troponin levels for cardiac health



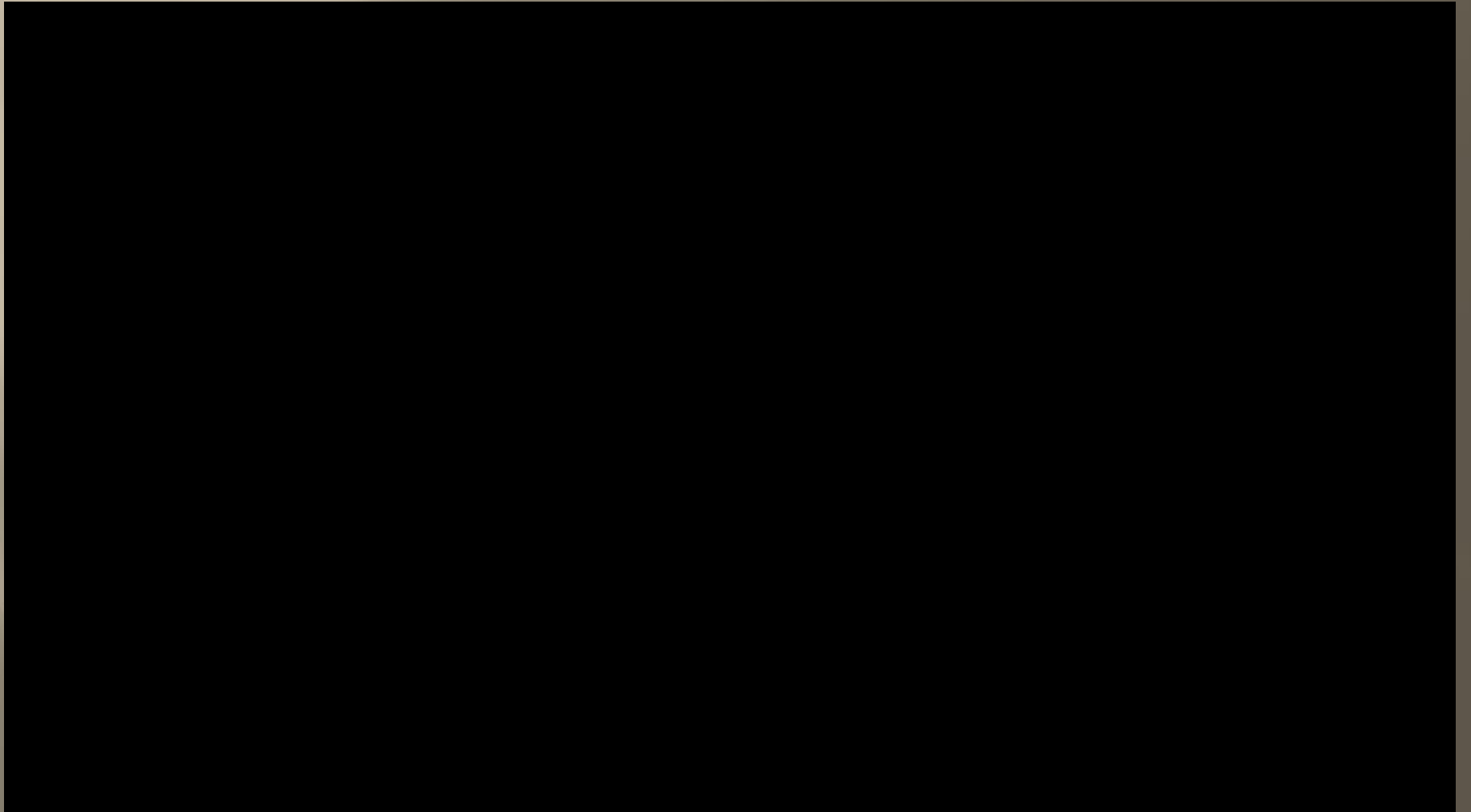
Vitamin E Supplementation Benefit

Oct 2015



Sept 2017





Voluntary Plasma Collection



Used 18 gauge needle
Draws took 8-9 min and required
additional person

Denver Zoo Calf
received plasma
from our first
collection



Voluntary Pre-Shipment Procedure



Over the course of two days:

- Blood draw
- TB test
- 2 hand injected vaccinations
- General health assessment with use of stethoscope

Questions

