

Physical Examination

Before any procedure is undertaken on an animal the attending physician should preform a quick general check to ensure the animal is healthy enough to endure both the procedure and the recovery process required. This physical will include but not limited to

1. Distance Exam portion - Observe the animal and its surroundings to determine :

- A. The hygiene status of the area the animal is being kept
- B. Is the animal standing , walking and behaving within normal parameters
- C. Is it housed singly or with others ? . If housed with others is it interacting with herd mates ?
- D. Does the animal has any visible lesions , discharges or wounds?
- E. Is the animal exhibiting any visible signs of pain / discomfort ?

2 . Hands on Portion - Physically exam the animal to ensure all the parameters fall within acceptable or reasonable ranges :

Normal Values for Temperature in the Ruminant		
Animal	Degrees Celsius	Degree Fahrenheit
Cattle - Adult	38-39	100.5 - 102.5
Cattle - Calf	39-40.5	101.5-103
Sheep - Adult	39-40	102-103.5
Sheep- Lamb	39.5-40.5	102.5-104
Goat - Adult	38.5-39.5	101.5-103.5
Goat - Kid	39-40.5	102-104

- Check for all palpable lymph nodes
- Check mucus membranes
- Percuss the frontal sinus to check for any pre-existing problem as opening the frontal sinus when an infectious process is happening may be contraindicated.