General

* Most common injuries from blunt force trauma
* Other: burn, sharp force, drowning, strangulation, sexual abuse, neglect, drugs/alcohol, gunshot
* Often multiple regions, different types of injuries or abuse
* Examine for wounds, swellings, contusions, erythema, pain
* Radiographs for undetected injuries, older fractures
* Note mentation, behavior of animal
* Photograph exam, injuries, before and after shaving or treatment
* Use measuring scale in photos of injuries; measure injuries – size and depth
* Lab work: Profile- include **CK/CPK** for muscle injury; CBC, UA
* Consider thermal imaging to detect areas of inflammation/trauma
* Suspected sexual abuse: UV light on entire body, swab/cut fur to collect biological evidence, make slides; swab genitalia, perineal, anus/rectum, vulva/vagina. Use sterile technique

Head: (Note head trauma, skull fractures common)

* Eyes – conjunctiva, sclera, fundic exam, pupil abnormalities
* Ears – pinna, otoscopic exam for hemorrhage, canal petechia
* Mouth – teeth, tongue, mandible, foreign material
* Nose – nares, nasal bones
* Skull – swelling, fractures

Neck:

* Contusions, abrasions, swellings dorsal neck cellulitis/swelling
* Ligature indentation

Torso: (Note rib fractures common, different stages of healing)

* Palpate ribs, sternum: swellings, fractures, abnormalities
* Palpate spine
* Wounds, contusions, abrasions, swellings, pain

Legs: (Note leg fractures common, especially femur)

* Palpate for fractures, contusions, swellings, check joints
* Feet – check nails, pads, collect foreign material

Pelvis/Tail:

* Tail – fractures, luxations
* Pelvis – fractures, swellings, contusions

Perineal/Genitalia:

* Trauma – injuries, swellings, contusions
* May require internal vaginal exam, rectal exam