



# Maternal Behavior

Domestic Animal Behavior



# Basis of maternal behavior

- Innate behavior
- Experience
- Learned
- Hormones
  - Estrogen>
  - Progesterone<
  - Oxytocin>>>>>>
- Vaginal stimulation





# Basis of Maternal Behavior

- Olfaction
- Visual
- Recognition of the young
  - Signature mixture
  - Maternal labeling





# Pigs



# Pig Maternal Behavior (Free-ranging)

- Pre-partum
  - Nest-seeking
  - Nest-Building
- Parturition
  - At night
  - Placentophagia
- Post-partum
  - Stay in the nest for two days
  - Weaning at 14-17 weeks.



# Pig Maternal Behavior

- Nursing
  - How they found the udder??
  - Cyclic and consistent
  - Sow call the piglets
  - Piglets massaging and grunt
  - Quiet phase
  - Final massage

# Maternal recognition and clinical problems

- Olfaction
  - Feces, udder
- 1-7 days
- Reject piglets after two days
- Maternal aggression
- Cannibalism
- MMA





# Sheep





# Sheep Maternal Behavior

- Parturition
  - Any time of the day
  - Restless, vocalization, rubbing flank, pawing
  - Eating and rumination ceases
  - 30-60 minutes

# Sheep Maternal Behavior

- Post-partum behavior
  - Special vocalization for first hour
  - Licking the newborn
  - Correlated with estrogen levels
  - Lamb stand within 30m
  - 2-3 hours first suckling

# Sheep Maternal Behavior

- Nursing
  - Odor, thermal and tactile cues
  - 6-14 times
  - 20-40 sec
  - Ewe standing and vocalization
- Acceptance of the lamb
  - Licking
  - Olfaction



# Sheep Maternal Behavior

- Recognition of the lamb
  - Visual- the most important
  - Olfactory
- Recognition of the ewe
  - Visual and auditory
  - Colostrum intake



Goat



# Goat Maternal Behavior

- Pre-partum
  - Leave the herd
  - Agitated, kicking, pawing,
- Post-partum
  - Licking and vocalization
  - Kid hide
- Recognition
  - Visual





Cow



# Cow Maternal Behavior

- Parturition
  - Do not live the herd
  - Noon-midnight
  - Placentophagia
  - Licking
  - No kind recognition
  - No recognition



# Cow Maternal Behavior

- Nursing
  - Within 3 hours
  - During the day
  - Tail waging
  - Cow lick perineum
  - Allosuckling
- Weaning
  - 11 month







Horse



# Mare Maternal Behavior

- Parturition
  - Stage one
  - Stage two
  - Stage 3
- At night
- Licking
- Maternal recognition



# Mare Maternal Behavior

- Suckling
  - 2 hours
  - 4 times/h
  - 2 minutes
  - Fillies more than colt
- Weaning
  - 40 weeks
- Recognition
  - Auditory and olfactory





Cat





# Cat Maternal Behavior

- Parturition
  - Hide areas
  - Restless, licking
  - Placentophagia
  - Licking the kittens
  - U form
- Nursing
  - 1-2
  - Olfactory cues
  - 3 stages
- Nest changing
- Long maternal behavior





Dog



# Bitch Maternal Behavior

- Parturition
  - Nest building
  - Restless, licking, decrease in body temperature
  - Labor interruption
  - Placentophagia
  - Licking
  - Nest cleaning
- Nursing
  - Blind and death
  - Puppies vocalisation
- Clinical problem
  - Pseudopregnancy

