**Veterinary Hospital Accessibility Checklist**

Assessing accessibility in a veterinary hospital research environment involves evaluating the physical environment, equipment, processes and policies, to ensure they are accessible to individuals with disabilities (seen & unseen) and meet relevant regulatory standards. This checklist covers various aspects of accessibility, including physical access, equipment usability, communication methods and documentation formats, which may be relevant in a veterinary hospital-based research setting.

**Physical Accessibility:**

* Evaluate entrances, exits, hallways, and pathways to ensure they are wide enough for wheelchair users and free from obstructions.
* Check for accessible parking, entrances, ramps and lifts.
* Assess the height of counters, desks, examination tables, lab benches, sinks and equipment to ensure they are reachable by individuals of different heights or those who use mobility aids.

**Facility Infrastructure:**

* Ensure that accessible features such as grab bars, handrails, and accessible seating are available where needed.
* Check accessibility of medical equipment, including examination tables, imaging machines and diagnostic to Review the accessibility of treatment rooms, examination areas, kennels, and grooming facilities.
* Ensure that animal handling areas are accessible and equipped with features such as non-slip flooring and secure restraint options.
* Assess the accessibility of restroom facilities for both clients and staff.

**Equipment and Services:**

* Evaluate the accessibility of medical equipment, including examination tables, scales, and diagnostic tools. Ensure they can accommodate pets of various sizes and are usable by individuals with disabilities.
* Assess the availability of auxiliary aids and services, such as sign language interpreters or communication devices for clients with hearing or speech impairments.
* Ensure that medical records and other client information are available in accessible formats upon request.

**Communication and Documentation:**

* Review communication methods used by the veterinary hospital, including signage, written materials, and digital platforms. Ensure they are accessible to individuals with disabilities.
* Evaluate the accessibility of laboratory documentation, including manuals, protocols, and safety information. Ensure they are available in accessible formats and are compatible with screen readers.

**Policies and Training:**

* Evaluate policies related to disability accommodation, including procedures for requesting accommodations and addressing accessibility concerns.
* Evaluate training programs to ensure that lab staff are knowledgeable about accessibility requirements and how to assist individuals with disabilities.

**User Feedback:**

* Gather feedback from individuals who use the veterinary hospital and facilities. Their perspectives can provide valuable insights into areas that may need improvement.

**Review:**

* Regularly monitor and review accessibility requirements to ensure ongoing compliance with accessibility standards and to address new accessibility issues that may arise.