The list below includes references relevant to this chapter published after this edition’s release in 2010. References that are significant or note-worthy are so indicated.

NEW REFERENCES


These guidelines provide veterinarians guidance in relieving pain and suffering of animals that are to be euthanized. They categorize barbiturates as acceptable for the euthanasia of avian species. Inhaled anesthetics, CO₂, CO, N₂, Ar, cervical dislocation (for small birds and poultry), decapitation for small birds) and gunshot (for free-ranging birds) are characterized as acceptable with conditions. Thoracic (or rapid cardiac) compression is characterized as an unacceptable means of euthanizing animals that are not deeply anesthetized or insentient due to other reasons, but is considered appropriate as a secondary method for animals that are insentient.


The authors describe proper application of RCC for euthanasia of small birds and provide external cues for a bird as it progresses toward death as well as other considerations when using RCC.


This prospective study evaluated oral transmucosal pentobarbital sodium at three doses in 110 wild-caught wild birds requiring euthanasia and found that oral transmucosal pentobarbital results in rapid loss of consciousness and respiratory arrest and provides a reliable alternative euthanasia method compared to intravenous administration.


This text offers extensive medical information relevant to the wildlife setting, covering triage, emergency care, and other key considerations in handling, diagnosing, and treating wild animals, with several chapters dedicated to various avian species.


Waterfowl by Examining the Hypoxia Responses of the Andean Goose (Chloephaga melanoptera). Physiological and Biochemical Zoology 91:859-867. https://doi.org/10.1086/697053


This chapter provides an overview of some aspects of the anatomy, physiology, and behavior of birds, and address general aspects of avian care in the laboratory setting. These include housing, environment, nutrition, environmental enrichment, handling, transport, special management practices (sexing, identification, incubation, insemination, chick rearing), field studies, amelioration of pain and distress, and euthanasia.


The authors compare intraosseous pentobarbital treatment and thoracic compression on time to circulatory arrest and an isoelectric electroencephalogram in anesthetized passerine birds. The results suggested that thoracic compression might be an efficient euthanasia method for small birds. The authors propose that cardiac compression is a more accurate description than thoracic compression for this procedure.


