

AVIAN BEHAVIORAL HISTORY

Referring Veterinarian:

Referring Veterinarian Telephone

Date: _____

Bird's Name:

Date of hatch:

Species:

Gender: M F Confirmed by: Surgery DNA

Owner Name:

Address:

City, State:

Home Telephone:

Work Telephone:

E-mail Address:

List behavior problems in order of severity:

Date of onset:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

BACKGROUND

Have you owned birds before? Which species?

Source of bird?

How many clutchmates?

Why did you select this particular bird?

Was the bird hand-raised? Starting at what age?

How old was the bird when first acquired?

How long have you had this bird?

Any previous owners? Why was bird given up?

MEMBERS OF HOUSEHOLD

List all members of your household and their schedules:

Name	Age	Hours away from home	Time spent with bird
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List all pets in household in the order in which they were obtained:

Name	Species	Breed	Sex	Age	Interaction with bird
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Are any other pets or family members ill?

ENVIRONMENT

Type of dwelling (house or apartment) and approximate square footage:

Do you have electric or gas heat? At what temperature is the house kept?

Is the bird exposed to aerosols or cigarette smoke? Do you use an exterminator?

Have you moved since acquiring your bird?

Have there been any recent changes to the physical environment?
(new people or pets, new furniture, cage, cage location, etc.)

HOUSING

Describe the location(s) where the bird is kept. Is the location varied?

Describe the primary enclosure:

Dimensions:

Substrate:

Perches:

Hide:

Where does the bird sleep?

List the toys available to the bird in order of preference:
(include color, size, shape, and texture)

ACTIVITY

How much time each day does the bird spend outside of the cage?

How much time each day is the bird exposed to sunlight?

What percentage of time is spent outdoors?

In a cage _____ On a perch _____ On a screened patio _____

Supervised outdoors: Yes No

How much time each day is spent interacting with people?

How and how often do you play with your bird?

GENERAL BEHAVIOR

Does your bird ever appear to be afraid of any particular items or situations?

Describe the situation(s).

What is your bird's reaction to the following situations?

the veterinary hospital
familiar adults
familiar children
unfamiliar guests
in the cage
outside the cage
when you leave
when you return
during car travel
approaches to cage
removal from cage with hand or perch
being placed back in cage
approaching while eating
stroking or petting
leaning over bird
raising hand over bird
staring at bird
being disturbed while resting
hugging or kissing the bird

Does your bird tear up items? Under what circumstances?

FEEDING

Brand of Food:

Amount fed per day:

Fed when and by whom?

Other foods offered: Consumed? How often? %age of diet

Seed:

Vegetables:

Fruits:

Carbohydrates:
(pasta, bread, cereal)

Proteins:
(meat, eggs, cheese)

Snacks:

Are any dietary supplements used?

Has there been a change in your bird's appetite?

SLEEPING AND BATHING

Where does the bird sleep?

Between what hours does the bird sleep? Does this vary?

Is the photoperiod (hours of light each day) natural or regulated?

How many hours of light is the bird exposed to during a 24-hour period?

Do you provide regular opportunities for bathing? Where and how?

Does your bird enjoy baths?

REPRODUCTION

Has the bird ever been used for breeding?

Does your bird have access to other birds?

Visual Physical Auditory

Are there any other nesting birds in the environment?

Does your bird do any of the following? If so, how often?

Protect cage, toys, food, mirror

Nest building

Regurgitate

Hide in dark places

Bend over and fan tail

Masturbate

Mother toys

TRAINING

Does your bird know any commands? Which ones?

Does your bird mimic or vocalize?

Who is the primary trainer?

Do you have regular training sessions with your bird?

Do you use rewards? If so, what types?

Do you correct or discipline your bird?

MEDICAL

When was your bird's last health examination?

Do you have your bird's wings trimmed? How often?

Give a brief medical history:

List medications your bird has taken in the past:

List current medical problems:

List current medications:

STEREOTYPIC BEHAVIOR

Does your bird engage in feather plucking or self-mutilatory behaviors?

Does your bird pace back and forth in the cage?

When did the problem begin?

What percentage of the time does the bird engage in this behavior?

Was any particular event associated with the onset of the behavior?

When is the behavior most intense? (season, time of day, presence or absence of certain individuals, particular locations)

What is the bird's attitude while performing the behavior?

Can you interrupt the behavior? If so, how?

What have you tried doing to correct the problem? Has any treatment been effective?

Has there been a change in the frequency or appearance of the behavior?

Describe in detail a recent episode:

AGGRESSION

Has your bird ever bitten a person?

Has your bird ever bitten another bird?

When did the first bite occur?

List the total number of bites:

Who were the victims of the attacks?

Describe the first aggressive episode:

Date of occurrence:

Person(s) present:

Signs displayed by bird:

Location:

Circumstances:

Describe the last two aggressive episodes:

Date of occurrence:
Person(s) present:
Signs displayed by bird:
Location:
Circumstances:

Date of occurrence:
Person(s) present:
Signs displayed by bird:
Location:
Circumstances:

Your bird (circle all that apply):

Attacks without warning	Screams before attacking
Attacks primary caregiver	Attacks only unfamiliar individuals
Raises feathers	Extends neck
Retreats after biting	Bites once and lets go
Bites multiple times	Does not let go
Attacks only near the cage	Attacks only near the primary caregiver
Inflicts injuries requiring medical attention	

VOCALIZATION

Do you consider excessive vocalization to be a problem for your bird?

Does your bird chatter or scream?

When did the problem begin?

When does the behavior occur?

When is the behavior most intense?

Has there been a change in the frequency or intensity of the behavior?

How do you react to the screaming?

Have you tried anything to correct the behavior?

Has any intervention been effective?

Describe in detail a recent episode: