

CAN WE GUARANTEE THE WELFARE OF BOTTLENOSE DOLPHIN (*Tursiops truncatus*) IN CAPTIVITY?

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INTRODUCTION

The maintenance of bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) in captivity is a very controversial issue at present.

We must try to move away from anthropomorphism and focus on the “*umwelt*” of the species.

The Five Domains Model for animal welfare includes:

1 NUTRITION

2 ENVIRONMENT

3 HEALTH

4 BEHAVIOURAL INTERACTIONS

5 MENTAL STATE

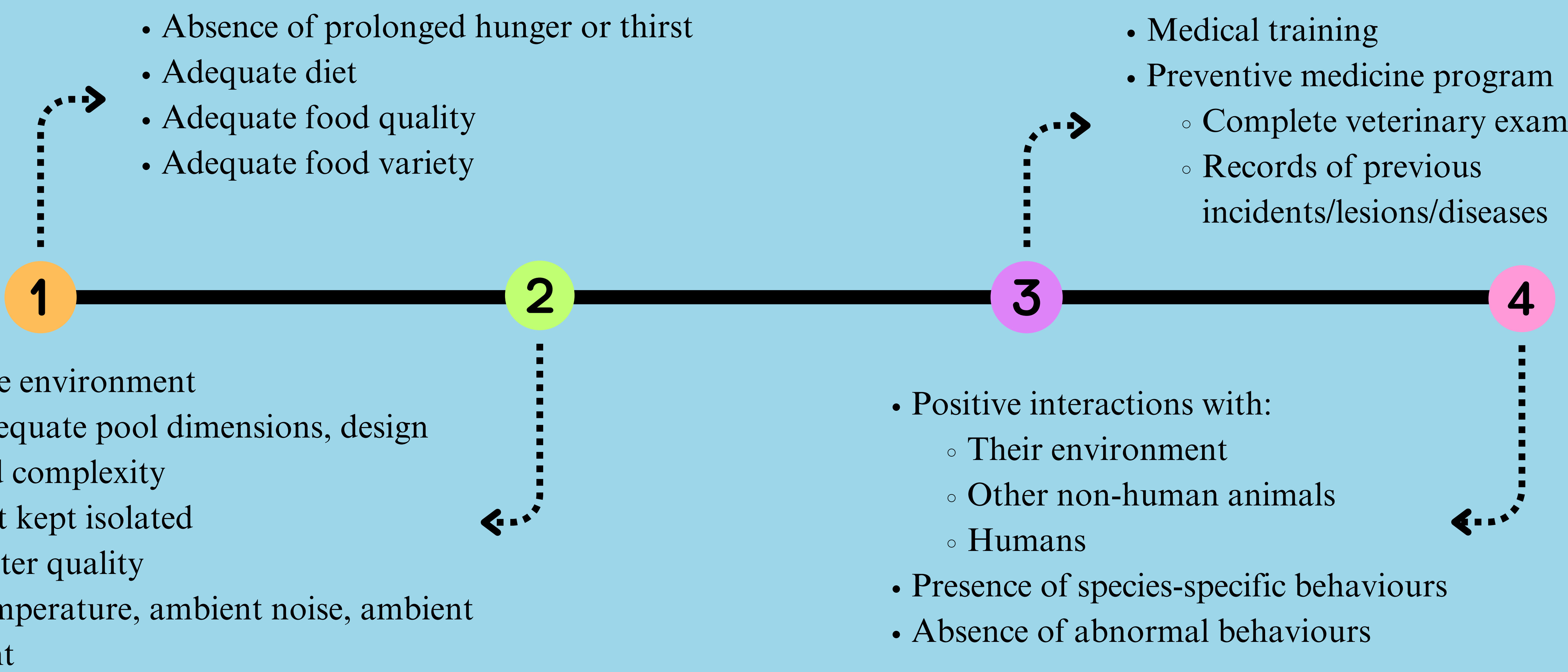
The factors included in the first four domains give rise to experiences that affect the fifth domain (mental state).

OBJECTIVES

The main objective is to **determine if we can guarantee the welfare of bottlenose dolphin in captivity** by analyzing:

- the biological requirements they have
- the problems associated with captivity.
- the indicators we have to evaluate their welfare

through the first four domains (nutrition, environment, health and behavior) of the five domains model.



CONCLUSIONS

- There are many welfare indicators that allow us to assess the welfare of bottlenose dolphins in captivity.
- The indicators have certain limitations.
- It is difficult to generalize.
- More studies are needed.

REFERENCES

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