

Establishing Standards for Care & Welfare of Dogs in Commercial Breeding Facilities

Candace C. Croney
ccroney@purdue.edu



Aim: Create & test science-based care standards for dog well-being in commercial breeding (CB) kennels.

The Problem

- ❖ High US demand for purebred dogs
- ❖ Negative perceptions of CB
 - Lack of research to inform policy & best practice
 - Insufficient legislative emphasis on dog well-being needs

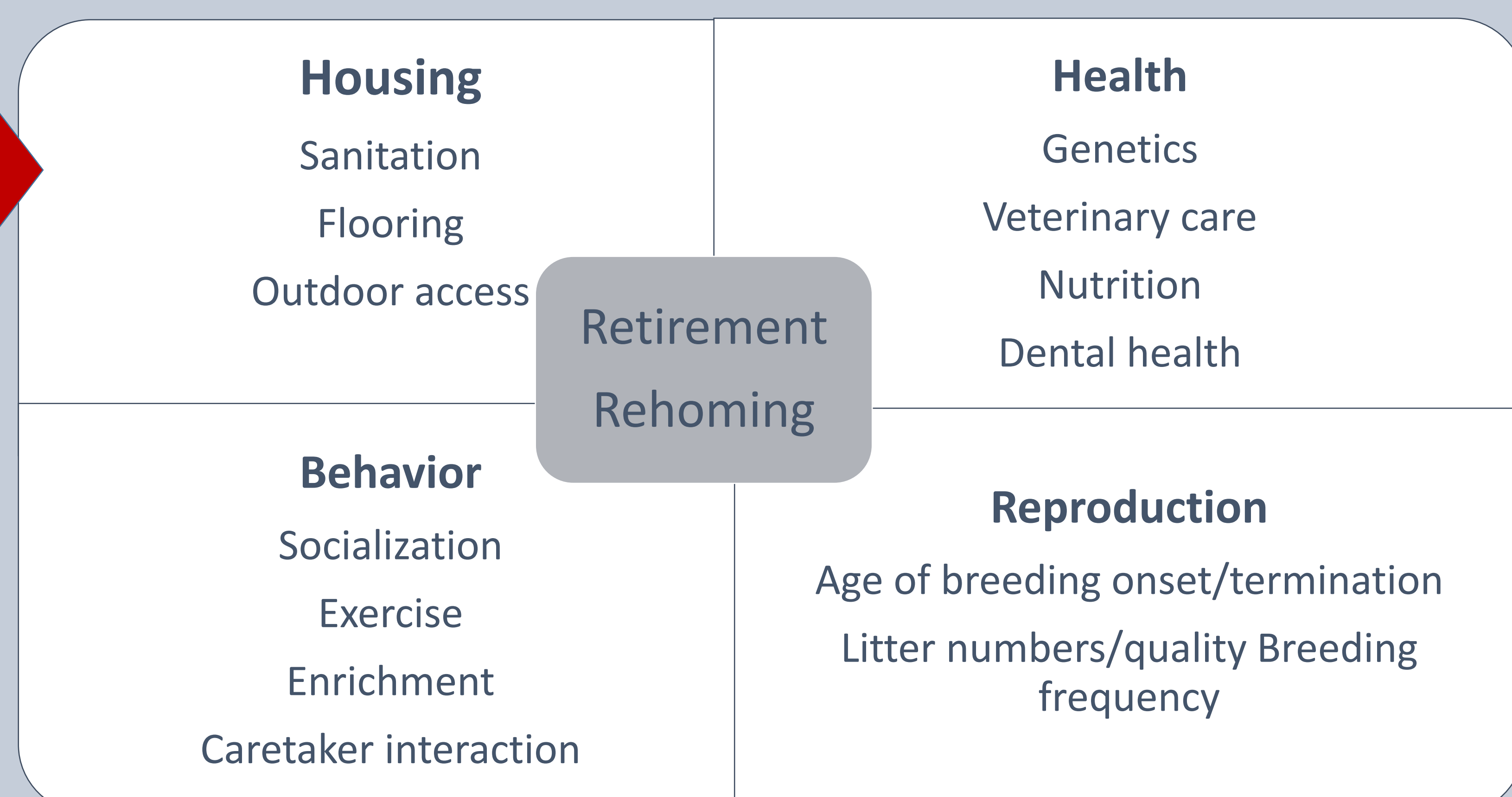
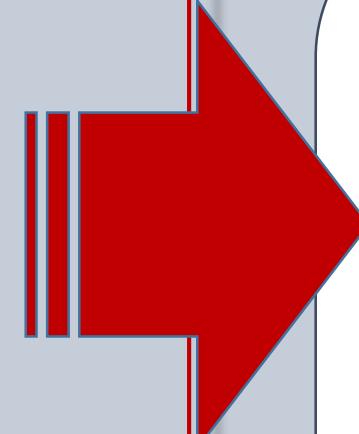
- ❖ Perceived industry failure to self-regulate
 - Sub-standard, repeat offender breeders
 - Lack of transparency
 - Real welfare problems



****Impetus to regulate****

Voluntary Standards Program

- ❖ Inclusive, science-based, scale-neutral
- ❖ Pilot test program (24 kennels)
 - ❖ Implementation
 - ❖ Welfare status of dogs
- ❖ Breeder Education
- ❖ 3rd party auditing & certification



Research Program

- ❖ Effects of flooring on dog foot health, kennel & dog cleanliness
- ❖ Prevalence and scoring of periodontal disease in CB facilities
- ❖ Field-ready behavior & welfare assessment metrics
- ❖ Assessment of fear & distress
- ❖ Management & rehoming practices
- ❖ Public perceptions of dog breeding, welfare, sources of acquisition

For more information:

<http://vet.purdue.edu/CAWS/index.php>

<https://caninecarecertified.org/>

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Research Sponsors

- ❖ World Pet Association
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