EMERGENCY RESPONSE TRAINING:

1. All veterinarians, veterinary nurses and curatorial level staff must receive training on how to respond to an M99/Etorphine emergency.

2. All veterinary department staff, students and keepers must be familiar with this protocol.

3. All equipment boxes include a summary of the M99/etorphine emergency procedure.

STANDARD PROTOCOL FOR USE ON M99/ETORPHINE PROCEDURE

1. At LEAST 2 people who have received specific training MUST be present for the entire procedure for M99/Etorphine to be used.

2. A veterinarian will be appointed as the lead vet for the procedure and must give a safety briefing informing of the dangers of the drugs involved and the emergency procedure in event of an accident before the procedure commences giving specific instructions to those unfamiliar with this protocol.

3. The team involved should be carrying at least 2 radios, a DECT phone and a standard mobile phone.

4. The emergency response kit must always accompany the M99/etorphine on any procedure this contains syringes pre-filled with Naloxone.

5. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD THESE DRUGS BE USED IN MANUAL BLOW PIPES.

6. Darts (including discharged darts), syringes, the drug bottles and any other disposables or equipment in contact with M99/Etorphine must only be handed wearing gloves.
7. A visor or goggles should be used when loading or cleaning darts.

8. A protective cap should be in place over the dart during pressurisation.

9. The loaded pressurised dart should be placed immediately into the barrel of the dart rifle.

10. Contaminated syringes should be discarded immediately into the sharps bin carried during a procedure.

11. Water canister should be carried with kit to be used to wash off contamination immediately.

12. Once the animal is recumbent and the dart has been removed the dart site should be washed thoroughly with copious amounts of water to remove any residual drug.

**EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO ACCIDENTAL INJECTION OR CONTAMINATION WITH M99/ETORPHINE.**

**ACCIDENTAL TOPICAL CONTACT**
For any spillage on skin or splashing into eyes, nose or mouth

1. Wash *immediately* with copious amounts of water

2. Remove any clothing on which any drug may have spilt.

3. Keep the person as calm as possible as panic can confuse symptom recognition.

4. Monitor the person closely for toxic effects, dizziness, nausea, pinpoint pupils, respiratory depression, cyanosis and loss or consciousness.

5. Await signs of toxicity BEFORE administering drugs.

**ACCIDENTAL SELF INJECTION OR ONSET OF SIGNS OF TOXICITY FOLLOWING CONTAMINATION**

1. Summon help using the Emergency Button on the radio and calling a Dangerous Drug Emergency. The East Service Gate should immediately call and Ambulance and inform them of the nature of the emergency.

2. Put on gloves

3. Keep the person as calm as possible as panic can confuse symptom recognition.
4. Rinse the injection/contamination site with copious amounts of water and avoid direct contact with the drug.

5. Administer Naloxone hydrochloride 1mg/ml (Narcan)
   - Administer Intravenously (a 20-22g butterfly catheter is usually the easiest route of administration compared to a needle).
   - If IV is not possible not administer intramuscularly using a 18-20g needle
   - An initial dose of 400µg - 2000µg (0.4ml-2ml)
   - If no improvement in breathing is seen then the dose can be repeated at 2-3 minute intervals until the symptoms are reversed.
   - If after 10mg of Naloxone being administered the patient is still showing signs they will need to be reassessed urgently by trained medical staff.

6. In the event of cardiac or respiratory arrest start external heart massage and artificial respiration immediately. An ambu-bag is carried in the anaesthesia kit and can be used for this purpose.

7. It is essential that the ambulance staff are given the following information:

   By the East Service Gate on calling the Ambulance:
   - That human exposure to high concentrate narcotic animal anaesthetic ‘Etorphine’ has occurred
   - The dose (or approximate dose) of M99/Etorphine administered.
   - That the zoo team are providing first aid and administering Naloxone and need urgent assistance.
   - The condition of the patient and if artificial respiration is being provided.

   By the staff with the patient
   - The data sheet or bottle of M99/Etorphine
   - The amount of Naloxone you have administered over what period of time.
   - The spare Naloxone.
   - Personal information of the patient