One of your primary roles as PASA vets is to be able to manage, control and minimise disease issues associated with your sanctuary. Figure 1 highlights procedures you can utilise to manage your diseases of concern in your sanctuary (blue circles). The main factors in controlling endemic diseases – those diseases that you already have in your sanctuaries, are surveillance for disease, usually by regular health monitoring, and biosecurity - procedures to reduce the chance of spreading those diseases further. Disease surveillance is also a useful tool as an early warning system for a potential epidemic. Well maintained records of this surveillance also provide a vital reference for disease investigation.

Quarantine, and potentially pre import protocols, helps minimise the risk if importing disease into your sanctuary, or exporting them from the sanctuary – be they diseases you know already exist and are trying to control, or those diseases that may be exotic. Contingency planning for exotic disease is a very useful process to prepare your sanctuary for an outbreak of a disease.

As the vet, or a member of the veterinary support team, you are one of the people responsible for the health and welfare of the animals in your sanctuary. It is a requirement that you work effectively with the sanctuary managers and other relevant staff to make sure the animals under your care are as free of disease as is possible. Therefore - what are your diseases of concern, and more
importantly, how have you concluded that these diseases are important issues? Use the box below to note down your answer.

What are you ‘Diseases of Concern’ for Your Sanctuary?  
How have you decided that these are important? Why are they important?

Figure 2 illustrates areas of a preventative health programme already in place in PASA sanctuaries. Can you name all the components of a preventative health plan? – use the box provided on the next page. When you have completed this task, refer to the PASA veterinary guidelines and minimum standards in section 1, making notes where your sanctuary fails, meets, or exceeds the standards. This will provide you with the starting point of what you need to focus on for the disease management in your sanctuary. The following sections on risk analysis and epidemiology are designed to introduce you to tools that can help you make the decisions of what disease issues need to be investigated, and what procedures need to be introduced or refined. The following sections of this manual provide practical notes on combating disease issues you may encounter. However, never forget your colleagues as a source of advice if you need as well.
Figure 2. Aspects of a preventative Health Programme in a PASA sanctuaries – Emergency medicine and surgery in a trauma case, Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary (1), opportunistic examination under anaesthetic, Limbe Wildlife Centre (2), diagnostic testing, Centre for Chimpanzee Conservation (3)

WHAT DOES QUARANTINE MEAN AT YOUR SANCTUARY? (Official Definition: A period of time during which an animal, person, or material suspected of carrying a contagious disease is detained under enforced isolation to prevent disease from entering an area. The term also refers to the place of such detention. Refer to the PASA Vet Guidelines.)

WHAT DOES BIOSECURITY MEAN AT YOUR SANCTUARY? (Official Definition: Precautions taken to minimize the risk of introducing an infectious disease into an animal population).

WHAT ARE THE COMPONENTS OF A PREVENTATIVE HEALTH PROGRAMME?
HEALTH MANAGEMENT IN YOUR SANCTUARY

**Animal/Environment based**
- Enclosure design
- Pest control
- Opportunistic/requisite disease testing
- Anaesthesia, Emergency response

**Human Based**
- Identification and Record keeping
- Nutrition
- Vaccination
- Contraception
- Routine treatments – E.G parasite control

**Hygiene**
- Staff health
- Staff Training
- H and S, COSHH, SWP

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*Figure 3. Components of a Preventative Health Programme*