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# Vulture Rehabilitation Manual

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VulPro



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## ABSTRACT

Every single vulture species is under threat, not only in southern Africa, but across Africa and the globe. The dangers to the species vary by location, with most threats being anthropogenic.

The principle behind this manual is that every vulture's life counts. Each individual deserves the chance to fly free and reproduce.

This manual is based on 15 years of VulPro's experience in rehabilitating African vultures. VulPro's rehabilitation experience is mainly based on the Gyps species, namely the African White-backed and Cape Vulture; but also with Lappet-faced, White-headed, and Palm-nut Vultures. VulPro also rehabilitates large raptors such as owls, eagles, hawks and secretary birds. Vultures, however, are unique in several respects and therefore warrant their own attention with regards to husbandry and medical treatment. This document is designed to advise and aid the rehabilitation of large, Old World vulture species (namely the Gyps, Torgos, and Trigoniceps species) but should also be considered in the treatment of smaller vulture species.

## ATTACHMENTS

[Vulture\\_Rehabilitation\\_Manual\\_Version\\_2.0\\_.pdf](#)

## COLLECTION CITATION

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## KEYWORDS

vulture rehabilitation, vultures

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## SAFETY WARNINGS

**Most medical treatment needs to be undertaken by a registered vet, vet nurse or para-veterinarian. Procedures such as prescribing medication, injections and some forms of fluid administration should only ever be done by one of the above mentioned, registered individuals.**

## DISCLAIMER:

This is a living document which will be altered and improved as we learn more about parameters for success. Always cite which version is used and be sure to check our website [www.vulpro.com](http://www.vulpro.com) for the most updated copy.

This manual is provided to improve the rehabilitation and emergency medical treatment of all African vultures. To the best of our knowledge, the information is correct at the time of going to print. The manual should be considered a living document, since practices continue to evolve through advances in scientific knowledge.

**The application of information within this manual should be in accordance with all local, provincial, national and regional laws and regulations. The recommendations are not exclusive management approaches, medical treatments, or procedures, and may require adaptation to the specific needs of individual animals and particular circumstances. In all circumstances, the advice of a qualified veterinary practitioner should be enlisted, where possible.**

The information contained in this manual has been obtained from years of experience and we deem it to be reliable and accurate. However, VulPro disclaims all liability for errors or omissions that may occur. VulPro and all contributing authors shall not be liable for any incidental, consequential, or any other damages whatsoever (whether resulting from negligence, application or otherwise) including, without limitation, exemplary damages or lost profits arising out of, or in connection with the use of this publication.

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## FILES



Chapter 1: Handling and Housing

**Version 1**  
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Chapter 2: Stabilizing the bird, conducting an initial clinical exam

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Chapter 3: Wound care

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Chapter 4: Broken bones and dislocations

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Chapter 5: Severe nutritional deficiencies, emaciation, head trauma

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Chapter 6: Paralysis

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Chapter 7: Poison treatment

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Chapter 8: Managing sick and injured vulture admissions

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Chapter 9: Release

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Chapter 10: Medications

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