

Intervention Strategies

Every dog who displays escalating FAS (often seen as escalating behavior categorization) or whose behavior presents a safety risk should have a behavior intervention plan to improve their welfare and a management plan for human safety.

<p>All dogs start here:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Request a vet check Are there underlying health issues that could cause behavior change, or can we provide immediate relief with medication?2) Safe management plan How will we safely manage the behavior during other interventions?3) Easy environmental changes Can we change the environment to reduce the triggers?4) Address emotional health needs Dogs with high FAS typically have unmet emotional and physical needs. Prescribe an extra daily enrichment plan (See Shelterluv, Training Plans)	<p>Consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Behavior category change• Prescribe a handling protocol• Teach 4-on-the-floor/kennel routine• Equipment changes (chain leash, different harness, slip lead, muzzle)• Routine changes (harness outside kennel, change walk order)• Visual barriers (add or remove)• Give a crate or cover for hiding• Kennel location change• Noise reduction/camouflage• Individual enrichment plan to better meet the dog's mental and emotional needs – this might include simple training for cognitive and social enrichment
<p>If desirable results aren't seen, then:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) 24 hours: Request meds recheck Trazodone and gabapentin are quick acting and can be reassessed after 24 hours with no improvement.2) Day 3: Reassess types of enrichment offered in the extra enrichment plan and try again. Does the enrichment being offered really meet the dogs' needs?3) Reward-based training After a safe management plan and addressing physical/mental health and environmental interventions, add a training plan if necessary. Behavior modification is difficult in a shelter-like environment, so priority should always be on exercises that reduce stress and promote safety.	<p>Consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is the dog engaging with the enrichment?• Is it too easy or too hard? Are you offering complex puzzles to a dog who would rather shred boxes?• Is the enrichment type creating stress? • Teaching 4-on-the-floor/kennel routine and ensuring that it is being followed• Pattern games for reactivity• Building loose leash skills and recall with follow-me games and targeting• Muzzle training• Teaching a leash biter to hold a toy• Behavior modification when deemed a priority

Behavior Intervention Plan

Animal ID:	Dog's Name:	Current Behavior Category:	
Date:	Author:		
Description of Undesirable Behavior(s):			
Setting Where Behavior Occurs:			
<i>Physical location:</i>			
<i>During what activity:</i>			
<i>Any other antecedents (i.e. triggers – people, animals, sounds, objects, etc.)</i>			
Desired Alternative Behavior: (If behavior is a result of high overall FAS, what behavior would tell us we are reducing FAS?)			
Intervention	Who is responsible?	Dates	