

Table A4 Physical and behavioral variables assessed once per day used to assess orphan rhino welfare. Response to humans was used in the evaluation of adaptation potential of the study animals

| Variable | Description |
|--------------------|---|
| Abnormal stools | Diarrhea or very soft feces |
| Fecal parasites | Gross visual presence of parasitic worms of the genus <i>Ascaris</i> in the feces |
| Injuries | Minor external injuries such as cuts or scratches (only if blood is visible) |
| Lethargy | Rhino appears dull, drowsy, listless |
| Response to humans | 1: Ignores human presence. Current behavior is not disrupted by human presence/approach. 2: Current behavior is interrupted. Adopts an alert posture. Eventually (less than 5 min) resumes the behavior previously performed 3: Current behavior is interrupted. Adopts an alert posture (sometimes defense formation with other group members) and walks or trots away from person. Alert posture might be performed several times every time it moves away from person 4: Trots away, mock charges against poles/gates 5: Trotting and running around boma, charges against poles/gates |

Rehabilitation method affects behavior, welfare, and adaptation potential for subsequent release of orphaned white rhinoceros

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