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Giant anteater undergoes exam at Brevard Zoo

MELBOURNE, Fla., September 13, 2019 — On Tuesday, 17-year-old female giant anteater Boo underwent a routine wellness exam at Brevard Zoo. Nine animal care professionals participated in the procedure, including three veterinarians.

The checkup entailed blood draws for laboratory testing, vaccinations, radiographs, a sonogram and an inspection of overall body condition. Most exams end with a dental cleaning, but this was not necessary for Boo because anteaters do not have teeth.

Giant anteaters have notoriously sharp foreclaws that can tear through termite mounds with a simple flick of the wrist. To protect Zoo staff and equipment from scratches, Boo was given “shoes” made from medical gauze.

The procedure lasted about two hours. Zoo staff found no concerns with Boo’s health, and she recovered from anesthesia without issue.

Boo currently resides behind the scenes, but animal fans can visit her in a brand-new habitat when the Zoo’s Rainforest Revealed exhibit opens in November.

Photos and video:
www.dropbox.com/sh/46vos6o2ecphzzo/AADmzJshU94fF8SzgLgkqgFr4a

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_Brevard Zoo is home to more than 900 animals representing 195 species from all over the world. As a not-for-profit organization, it is a leader in the fields of animal wellness, education and conservation. More information is available at [www.brevardzoo.org](http://www.brevardzoo.org)._

_Treetop Trek features five aerial obstacle courses that whisk guests above parts of the Zoo and through lush Florida landscapes. More information is available at [www.treetoptrek.com](http://www.treetoptrek.com)._  

_The Aquarium Project is a plan to construct a world-class aquarium and conservation center at Port Canaveral. More information is available at [www.theaquariumproject.org](http://www.theaquariumproject.org)._