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### Overview

This standard covers preparing for regulated surgical procedures on animals in a Home Office designated establishment.

You will be required to prepare for surgical procedures by ensuring that the environment is clean and follow infection control procedures. Ensuring the required equipment and materials are available for use. You will ensure that environmental conditions are monitored as required such as light, temperature, noise. You must also prepare animals for the planned procedure by applying the appropriate method of restraint, carrying out the necessary pre-procedure activities and minimising stress.

You must also obtain accurate monitoring information from observations and measurements of vital signs.

This standard is for licensed animal technologists in Home Office designated establishments.

It is essential that you work strictly within the limits of both your personal licence and the relevant project licence.

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### Prepare for regulated surgical procedures on animals in a Home Office designated establishment

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#### Performance criteria

*You must be able to:*

- P1 use safe practices and the appropriate personal protective equipment when carrying out scientific or technical activities
- P2 maintain appropriate levels of hygiene and bio-security
- P3 carry out infection-control procedures according to the requirements of the planned regulated surgical procedure
- P4 select, prepare/sterilise and position equipment and materials in accordance with the planned regulated surgical procedure and organisational requirements
- P5 confirm the animal's identity, condition and the planned regulated surgical procedure against available information
- P6 acclimatise the animal to the environment to minimise stress
- P7 carefully handle and restrain the animal using suitable method(s)
- P8 identify examination and treatment sites and undertake appropriate pre-procedure activities correctly
- P9 confirm that an appropriate level of anaesthesia has been achieved
- P10 obtain monitoring information throughout the procedure and take the appropriate action when problems arise
- P11 monitor environmental conditions, and adjust as necessary, to suit the needs of the animal and the type of procedure being undertaken
- P12 keep accurate and up to date records as required by legislation and the organisation
- P13 conduct all activities within the provision of your personal licence and the project licence
- P14 comply with legislation relating to the care and welfare of animals in a Home Office designated establishment
- P15 carry out all work in accordance with relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, risk assessment requirements, codes of practice and company policies

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#### Knowledge and understanding

*You need to know and understand:*

- K1 the importance and correct use of personal protective equipment for scientific or technical activities
- K2 the importance of maintaining appropriate levels of hygiene and bio-security and how this can be achieved
- K3 common routes of infection and the difficulties that infection can cause
- K4 appropriate infection-control procedures for different types of procedure
- K5 equipment and materials for different regulated surgical procedures, and the correct ways of preparing and positioning them
- K6 the common faults that occur with equipment and materials, and the action to be taken for each type of fault
- K7 the type of information that could be used to identify the animal, its condition and the planned regulated surgical procedure
- K8 how to acclimatise animals to the environment to minimise stress
- K9 how to position and restrain different types of animals for different types of regulated surgical procedure
- K10 the purpose of applying pre-medication prior to anaesthesia
- K11 what types of pre-procedure activities should be undertaken for different types of regulated surgical procedure
- K12 how to monitor animals for different types of difficulties and what action to take where concerns arise
- K13 the environmental conditions for different animals and for different types of regulated surgical procedure and how to monitor
- K14 appropriate records to be kept and their significance
- K15 the provisions of your personal licence and the provisions of the project licence
- K16 your responsibilities for the care and welfare of animals in a Home Office designated establishment under relevant animal welfare legislation, European directives and UK codes of practice
- K17 your responsibilities under current environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and company policies

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**Relevant occupations** Licensed Animal Technologist; Senior Animal Technologist; Team Leader; Animal Facility Manager

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**Suite** Animal Technology

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