
Overview

This standard covers preparing animals correctly for anaesthesia ready for conducting successful anaesthetic procedures in a Home Office designated establishment. You will have due regard for their care and welfare.

Preparation will include checking bodyweight, calculating dosages of anaesthetics, applying the appropriate level and method of restraint and administer the anaesthetic. You will be required to monitor the animal prior to anaesthesia for injury or distress and monitor the environmental conditions adjusting where necessary for the species requirements.

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

It is essential that you work strictly within the limits of the relevant project licence at all times.

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Prepare animals for anaesthesia in a Home Office designated establishment

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 use safe practices and appropriate personal protective equipment when carrying out scientific or technical activities
- P2 maintain appropriate levels of hygiene and bio-security
- P3 confirm the animal's identity, condition and the planned anaesthetic procedure being administered against available information
- P4 position and restrain the animal carefully using suitable handling equipment and methods
- P5 perform the required pre-anaesthetic checks and procedures prior to premedication and induction
- P6 obtain monitoring information throughout the procedure and take appropriate action when problems arise
- P7 monitor the animal carefully to detect any potential difficulties
- P8 minimise stress to the animal
- P9 adjust the environment conditions to suit the needs of the animal
- P10 conduct all activities within the provision of the project licence
- P11 comply with legislation relating to the care and welfare of animals in a Home Office designated establishment
- P12 carry out all work in accordance with relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, risk assessment requirements, codes of practices and company policies

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

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| K1 | the importance and correct use of appropriate personal protective equipment when carrying out scientific or technical activities |
| K2 | the importance of maintaining appropriate levels of hygiene and bio-security and how this can be achieved |
| K3 | the type of information that could be used to identify the animal, its condition and the planned anaesthetic procedure |
| K4 | why it is important to know the procedure and final outcome |
| K5 | how to position and restrain different types of animal for different types of anaesthetic procedure |
| K6 | the pre-anaesthetic checks that should be undertaken and the different types of preparation needed to administer anaesthetics |
| K7 | the pre and post medication checks that should be undertaken |
| K8 | how to monitor animals for different types of difficulties |
| K9 | how to minimise stress to the animal |
| K10 | the adjustments to environmental conditions needed for different types of animal including light, temperature, ventilation and noise |
| K11 | the provisions of the project licence |
| K12 | 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 |
| K13 | your responsibilities under relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and company policies |

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Developed by Lantra

Version number 2

Date approved February 2013

Indicative review date February 2018

Validity Current

Status Original

Originating organisation Lantra

Original URN O29NAT10

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

Suite Animal Technology

Key words animal; research; anaesthesia; monitor; premedication
