

LANRVN16

Calculate and administer fluid therapy to veterinary patients



Overview

This standard is about administering fluid therapy to veterinary patients. It covers calculating, administering and monitoring fluid therapy.

The appropriate fluids for the therapy can be:

1. blood or blood products
2. colloids
3. crystalloids
4. electrolyte solutions for oral rehydration

This standard is suitable for registered veterinary nurses.

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Performance criteria

- You must be able to:*
- P1 determine the correct fluid therapy in accordance with the requirements of the patient and the instructions of the qualified veterinary staff
 - P2 calculate the fluid requirements for the animal including flow-rate
 - P3 assemble equipment and materials correctly for:
 - P3.1. fluid containers
 - P3.2. administration sets
 - P3.3. catheters
 - P3.4. flow controls
 - P4 ensure the patient is positioned and restrained safely using suitable restraining methods and equipment
 - P5 cannulate an appropriate vein safely and effectively using aseptic techniques
 - P6 administer fluid therapy correctly according to the calculated fluid requirements of the patient for:
 - P6.1. maintenance requirements in the treatment of dehydration
 - P6.2. the treatment of metabolic disturbance
 - P6.3. the treatment of shock
 - P6.4. the treatment of blood loss
 - P7 monitor the patient carefully during and after the administration of the fluid therapy by assessing the:
 - P7.1. level of hydration
 - P7.2. condition of the mucous membranes
 - P7.3. pulse rate, rhythm and character
 - P7.4. fluid output
 - P7.5. behaviour
 - P7.6. laboratory test results
 - P8 identify indications of problems resulting from the fluid therapy promptly and bring them to the attention of the qualified veterinary staff
 - P9 dispose of surplus and waste materials according to veterinary practice procedures
 - P10 assess the potential risks to health and safety in this area of work
 - P11 comply with animal health and welfare legislation and codes of practice
 - P12 assess the five freedoms of the animal and how they may be addressed or affected whilst in your care
 - P13 select and implement appropriate infection control procedures
 - P14 maintain your own professional conduct

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 why it is important to confirm the patient's condition and fluid therapy with qualified veterinary staff
- K2 the conditions in which fluid therapy is administered
- K3 the suitable fluid therapy equipment and materials for different types of condition
- K4 how to calculate the fluid requirements for different animals' conditions, to include fluid type, quantity and flow-rate
- K5 how to position and restrain different types of patients for fluid therapy
- K6 how to administer different types of fluid therapy
- K7 the monitoring methods that should be used during fluid therapy
- K8 the problems that may occur during administration of fluid therapy and the importance of bringing it to the attention of the qualified veterinary staff
- K9 how to dispose of surplus and waste materials
- K10 how to identify problems with the equipment
- K11 the principles and key points of relevant health and safety regulations and guidelines
- K12 appropriate infection control measures
- K13 your professional responsibilities as a registered veterinary nurse
- K14 your responsibilities for the health and welfare of animals under current legislation and codes of practice

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