

LANRVN20

Conduct, and provide the results of, radiography on animals



Overview

This standard is about conducting radiography on animals and providing the results. You will be able to use the following radiography equipment:

1. x-ray machine
2. radiation monitoring equipment
3. cassettes
4. positioning aids
5. grids

You will be able to conduct the following radiographic views of animals:

6. fore limb
7. hind limb
8. spine
9. skull
10. pelvis
11. soft tissue

This standard is suitable for registered veterinary nurses.

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Performance criteria

- You must be able to:*
- P1 confirm the animal's condition and the diagnostic imaging technique required
 - P2 position and restrain the animal using suitable restraining equipment and methods
 - P3 monitor and care for anaesthetised and sedated animals
 - P4 identify the areas to be imaged correctly and undertake the appropriate pre-diagnostic imaging preparation
 - P5 monitor the animal carefully to detect potential difficulties, including:
 - P5.1. injury
 - P5.2. distress
 - P5.3. temperament
 - P5.4. clinical deterioration
 - P5.5. loss of diagnostic quality
 - P6 encourage the animal to feel at ease in the clinical environment
 - P7 select and use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - P8 conduct the radiography correctly according to the requirements of the qualified veterinary staff and the animal's condition in relation to:
 - P8.1. positioning
 - P8.2. anatomical directions/boundaries
 - P8.3. collimation
 - P8.4. centring
 - P8.5. labelling
 - P9 minimise discomfort to the animal wherever possible
 - P10 end the radiography session correctly and according to practice procedures
 - P11 complete exposure records according to legal and practice requirements
 - P12 process the radiographic image correctly
 - P13 produce radiographic images of diagnostic quality
 - P14 check the quality of the radiographic image and confirm the identity of the animal and record the results according to veterinary practice procedures
 - P15 identify any invalid results and ensure remedial action is taken
 - P16 assess the potential risks to health and safety in this area of work
 - P17 comply with animal health and welfare legislation and codes of practice
 - P18 select and implement appropriate infection control procedures
 - P19 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 what area of the animal is being investigated and what imaging technique is required
- K2 how to position and restrain different types of animal
- K3 what type of pre-diagnostic imaging preparation should be undertaken for radiography
- K4 how to monitor animals for different types of difficulties
- K5 how to encourage animals to feel at ease in clinical environments
- K6 what adjustments to environmental conditions are needed for different types of animal
- K7 how to confirm that the correct radiographic techniques are being applied
- K8 how to carry out radiography to achieve different requirements
- K9 the importance of positioning, anatomical directions, collimation, centring and labelling when undertaking radiography on animals
- K10 how to minimise the discomfort of animals during radiography
- K11 the documentation that has to be completed at the end of the radiography session
- K12 why it is important to match results to the correct animal
- K13 how to process the recorded image to a diagnostic quality
- K14 the methods for preventing contamination and errors in results
- K15 indications of invalid results and faults that occur and the remedial actions to take, including:
 - K15.1. inconsistencies with expected or previous results
 - K15.2. positioning errors
 - K15.3. processing errors
 - K15.4. exposure faults
- K16 the veterinary practice procedures for analysing and recording results
- K17 the principles and key points of relevant health and safety regulations and guidelines
- K18 appropriate infection control measures
- K19 your professional responsibilities as a registered veterinary nurse
- K20 your responsibilities for the health and welfare of animals under current legislation and codes of practice

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