Prepare environment and equipment for veterinary surgical procedures



Overview

This standard covers preparing for veterinary surgical procedures. You will need to be able to prepare the surgical environment, including preparation rooms, operating theatres, equipment and materials.

This standard is suitable for registered veterinary nurses.

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Performance criteria

You must

be able to:	P1	wear the correct attire for working in the surgical environment
	P2	use the effective hand hygiene technique as appropriate
	P3	keep the surgical environment as clean as practicable within the limits of the premises and the surgical procedure to take place
	P4	remove surplus and waste materials and gases from the surgical environment and dispose of them according to standard procedures
	P5	maintain and store surgical equipment and materials correctly
	P6	clean and sterilise surgical equipment and instruments
	P7	use an autoclave safely and effectively
	P8	provide people using the surgical environment with relevant information on the surgical procedure
	P9	obtain advice on the most suitable surgical equipment and materials from the veterinary surgeon
	P10	prepare surgical equipment and materials according to veterinary practice procedures
	P11	place surgical equipment and materials in the correct position to support the surgical procedure
	P12	inform colleagues clearly of any difficulties in providing equipment and materials
	P13	comply with regulations and guidelines relating to the use of surgical equipment and materials at all times
	P14	control the environmental conditions to suit the condition and the type of surgical procedure being undertaken and the animal's requirements
	P15	assess the potential risks to health and safety in this area of work
	P16	select and implement appropriate infection control procedures
	P17	maintain your own professional conduct

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 how to clean different types of surgical environment
- K2 the surplus and waste materials and gases and how each type should be dealt with
- K3 the methods available to clean and sterilise equipment and instruments
- K4 the environmental conditions that should exist for different types of surgical procedure
- K5 what type of information is needed on surgical procedures and who needs it
- K6 the equipment and materials used for different surgical procedures and why it is important to obtain guidance from veterinary surgeons
- K7 the preparation requirements of different types of surgical equipment and materials
- K8 the preparation and use of suction equipment
- K9 where surgical equipment and materials should be positioned for different surgical procedures
- K10 regulations and guidelines relating to the use of surgical equipment and materials
- K11 common faults that occur in equipment affecting functioning, reliability, safety and effectiveness and the actions to take
- K12 the types of faults that can occur in materials, including damaged packaging, deterioration and contamination
- K13 the principles and key points of relevant health and safety regulations and guidelines
- K14 appropriate infection control measures
- K15 your professional responsibilities in preparing the surgical environment as a registered veterinary nurse

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