Prepare animals for veterinary surgical procedures



Overview

This standard covers preparing animals for minor and major surgical procedures and carrying out the correct positioning and use of aseptic skin preparation.

This standard is suitable for registered veterinary nurses.

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Performance criteria

ou must be able to:	P1	wear the correct attire for the preparation of animals for veterinary surgical procedures
	P2	use effective hand hygiene technique as appropriate for the preparation being undertaken
	P3	confirm the animal's condition and the surgical procedure being undertaken against available information
	P4	position and restrain the animal carefully using suitable restraining equipment and methods
	P5	identify surgical sites correctly and ensure the appropriate pre-surgical procedures are undertaken
	P6	use appropriate equipment to: P6.1. maintain the animal's body temperature P6.2. prevent clinical deterioration
	P7	check the environmental conditions to suit the needs of the animal
	P8	assess the potential risks to health and safety in this area of work
	P9	comply with animal health and welfare legislation and codes of practice
	P10	select and implement appropriate infection control procedures
	P11	maintain your own professional conduct

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the importance of the correct attire in the surgical environment
- K2 the different methods of hand hygiene techniques
- K3 the type of information that could be used to identify the condition of the animal and the surgical procedures that are undertaken
- K4 how to position and restrain different types of animal for different types of surgical procedure
- K5 the types of pre-surgical procedures that should be undertaken for different surgical procedures, including:
 - K5.1. elective
 - K5.2. abdominal
 - K5.3. head and neck
 - K5.4. orthopaedic
- K6 how the animal's condition may affect the required preparation and handling during surgery
- K7 the equipment and methods available to maintain an animal's body temperature and minimise clinical deterioration
- K8 the adjustments to environmental conditions that are needed for different types of animal
- K9 the principles and key points of relevant health and safety regulations and guidelines
- K10 appropriate infection control measures
- K11 your professional responsibilities as a registered veterinary nurse
- K12 your responsibilities for the health and welfare of animals under current legislation and codes of practice

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