

LANRVN23

Assist the veterinary surgeon as a general theatre assistant during surgical procedures by providing equipment and materials



Overview

This standard is about assisting the veterinary surgeon during surgical procedures by carrying out the duties of a general theatre assistant. It covers the provision of equipment and materials during surgical procedures.

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 providing assistance in the surgical theatre
 - P2 use effective hand hygiene technique as appropriate for the assistance required
 - P3 provide the appropriate equipment and materials for performing surgical procedures on the animal
 - P4 position surgical instruments in the correct orientation for immediate use
 - P5 maintain the sterility of equipment and materials when supporting the vet during surgical procedures
 - P6 dispose of waste according to requirements
 - P7 assess the potential risks to health safety in this area of work
 - P8 select and implement appropriate infection control procedures
 - P9 maintain your own professional conduct

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 what surgical equipment and materials are needed for common surgical procedures including:
 - K1.1. instruments
 - K1.2. powered equipment
 - K1.3. sterile supplies
 - K1.4. sutures
 - K1.5. implants
 - K1.6. wound drains
- K2 the conditions for which surgery is required on animals, including:
 - K2.1. elective
 - K2.2. abdominal
 - K2.3. head and neck
 - K2.4. orthopaedics
- K3 why it is important to identify and provide the correct equipment and to act quickly when extra equipment is requested
- K4 why it is important to count the equipment and materials before, during and after surgery
- K5 the principles of using suction equipment and when it may be required
- K6 how to position different types of surgical instruments for ease of access and use
- K7 the appropriate attire for working in a surgical theatre
- K8 how to maintain sterility in equipment and materials and why it is important
- 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

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