

LANRVN24

Assist the veterinary surgeon as a scrubbed nurse to perform surgical procedures on animals



Overview

This standard is about the duties and conduct of scrubbed up veterinary nurses while assisting the veterinary surgeon during surgical procedures. It covers the roles of providing assistance whilst in theatre and when scrubbed up and also the handling of equipment and materials in a sterile manner during surgical procedures.

This standard is suitable for registered veterinary nurses.

LANRVN24

Assist the veterinary surgeon as a scrubbed nurse to perform surgical procedures on animals

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 scrub up to meet the needs of the surgical procedure, when required
 - P4 perform the following gloving techniques
 - P4.1. closed gloving
 - P4.2. open gloving
 - P5 handle the appropriate equipment and materials for performing surgical procedures in a sterile manner
 - P6 count all surgical equipment and materials accurately to track their use during and after surgery
 - P7 position surgical instruments in the correct orientation for immediate use
 - P8 maintain the sterility of unused equipment and materials during the surgical procedures
 - P9 assist with surgical procedures promptly and effectively according to the requirements of the veterinary surgeon and the condition of the animal
 - P10 handle the animal's anatomy according to the requirements of the veterinary surgeon
 - P11 apply surgical materials at the correct location and in the correct manner
 - P12 attach surgical equipment to the animal at the correct location and with minimal effect on tissue
 - P13 operate surgical equipment correctly and apply it at the correct time
 - P14 remove and disconnect surgical equipment and materials not required for recovery from the animal on completion of the surgical procedure
 - P15 maintain your own professional conduct

LANRVN24

Assist the veterinary surgeon as a scrubbed nurse to perform surgical procedures on animals

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the appropriate attire for working in a surgical theatre
- K2 the different working roles involved in providing assistance to veterinary surgeons during surgical procedures, including:
 - K2.1. scrubbed nurse
 - K2.2. general theatre assistant
 - K2.3. preparing the environment
- K3 the appropriate behaviours expected when working in the surgical theatre, including:
 - K3.1. movement around the theatre
 - K3.2. speech
 - K3.3. in relation to the sterile field
- K4 the reasons why you must be fully scrubbed up for certain procedures and the difference between them:
 - K4.1. closed gloving
 - K4.2. open gloving
- K5 the requirements of veterinary surgeons during surgical procedures and how the animal's condition affects this
- K6 why it is important to identify and provide the correct equipment and to act quickly when extra equipment is requested
- K7 why it is important to count the equipment and materials before, during and after surgery
- K8 who to request additional equipment from and why it is important to act quickly when extra equipment is requested
- K9 how to position different types of surgical instruments for ease of access and use
- K10 how to maintain sterility of equipment and materials and why it is important
- K11 the correct handling techniques for different parts of an animal's anatomy during surgery
- K12 the correct locations for the application of surgical materials
- K13 the principles of surgical site irrigation
- K14 the principles of topical applications of medication during surgery
- K15 how and where to connect to different types of surgical equipment during surgical procedures, including:
 - K15.1. instruments
 - K15.2. powered equipment
- K16 the principles of using suction equipment and when it may be required
- K17 how to remove animals from surgical equipment and the correct times for doing so
- K18 your professional responsibilities as a registered veterinary nurse

LANRVN24

Assist the veterinary surgeon as a scrubbed nurse to perform surgical procedures on animals

Developed by LANTRA

Version number 1

Date approved July 2010

Indicative review date July 2012

Validity Current

Status Original

Originating organisation LANTRA

Original URN RVN24

Relevant occupations Animal care and veterinary science; Animal Care Services

Suite Veterinary nursing and auxiliary services

Key words animals, duties, conduct, theatre
