

LANRVN28

Provide nursing care for animals in recovery



Overview

This standard is about providing nursing care for animals recovering from surgical procedures, anaesthesia or sedation.

You will interpret the following mentoring information:

1. observations
2. measurements of vital signs
3. monitoring systems

This standard is suitable for registered veterinary nurses.

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Performance criteria

- You must be able to:*
- P1 place the animal in an environment and recovery position suitable for its species and the procedure that has been undertaken
 - P2 monitor the animal's recovery carefully and bring any indication of problems to the attention of the veterinary surgeon, i.e.:
 - P2.1. standing or normal posture
 - P2.2. drinking
 - P2.3. eating
 - P2.4. toileting
 - P2.5. responses
 - P3 recognise signs of pain or distress
 - P4 minimise pain or distress to the animal using medication and fluids as requested by the veterinary surgeon
 - P5 use appropriate methods to prevent the animal interfering with wounds, dressings and catheters
 - P6 obtain the record monitoring information required by the veterinary surgeon correctly and promptly
 - P7 keep records of care and procedures accurate and accessible to authorised people to include anaesthetic records and nursing care plans
 - 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 principles of the use of suction
- K2 the recovery positions of different types of animal and procedure
- K3 how to monitor animals and the specific indications of problems for different types of animal and procedure, including:
 - K3.1. pain and distress
 - K3.2. vomiting or gastric reflux
 - K3.3. haemorrhaging
 - K3.4. interference with wounds
 - K3.5. inability to perform body functions
 - K3.6. loss of normal musculoskeletal function
- K4 how to recognise and minimise pain and distress during recovery
- K5 the methods that can be used for preventing animals interfering with wounds, dressings and catheters
- K6 why it is important to provide monitoring information to the veterinary surgeon and other members of the practice team
- K7 how and when to provide clear and accurate information to clients on the condition of animals
- K8 why it is important to accurately record procedures and who should have access to them
- 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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Developed by LANTRA

Version number 1

Date approved July 2010

Indicative review date July 2012

Validity Current

Status Original

Originating organisation LANTRA

Original URN RVN28

Relevant occupations Animal care and veterinary science; Animal Care Services

Suite Veterinary nursing and auxiliary services

Key words veterinary, procedures, anaesthesia, sedation