

LANRVN30

Administer medication and diet to animals



Overview

This standard covers the administration of medication to animals using a number of methods such as oral, topical, subcutaneous (not equine), intravenous and intramuscular. It also includes the calculation of Basal Energy Requirement (BER) and monitoring its adequacy.

This standard is suitable for registered veterinary nurses.

LANRVN30

Administer medication and diet to animals

Performance criteria

- You must be able to:*
- P1 confirm the treatment required for the animal with qualified veterinary staff
 - P2 obtain the correct preparation of medication and diets
 - P3 calculate the BER for the animal and the amount of diet needed
 - P4 calculate the correct dosage of medication required for the animal
 - P5 correctly prepare the medication for administration using the appropriate equipment
 - P6 ensure appropriate restraint of the animal
 - P7 assess the patient's condition prior to administration of the medication
 - P8 administer the medication via the correct route
 - P9 assess and monitor the animal after administration of medication
 - P10 dispose of surplus and waste materials safely and correctly
 - P11 record the treatment and amount of diet administered in an appropriate manner
 - P12 comply with animal health and welfare legislation and codes of practice
 - P13 select and implement appropriate infection control procedures
 - P14 maintain your own professional conduct
 - P15 comply with health and safety regulations
 - P16 monitor that the BER intake is adequate

LANRVN30

Administer medication and diet to animals

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 why it is important that qualified veterinary staff confirm the medication required prior to administration
- K2 how to correctly calculate drug dosages to include conversion of mg to ml
- K3 how to prepare and handle medication and equipment for administration to include sterile preparation and administration
- K4 how to administer a variety of medication via commonly used routes and reasons for choice
- K5 the importance of frequency and speed of administration
- K6 monitoring methods and observations to be used prior to, during and after the administration of medication
- K7 the identification of contraindications, drug reactions, over dosage and the appropriate course of action
- K8 the following terms in relation to pharmacology; therapeutic effect, absorption, half life, side effect, reaction, interaction and therapeutic index
- K9 the reasons for use and mode of action for commonly used medication
- K10 how to prepare and maintain medication administration charts accurately
- K11 the use of the cascade system
- K12 how to dispose of surplus medication, equipment and out of date or contaminated medication
- K13 how to calculate BER to get animals to eat adequate amounts for their diets
- K14 the principles and key points of relevant health and safety regulations and guidelines
- K15 appropriate infection control measures
- K16 your professional responsibilities as a registered veterinary nurse
- K17 your responsibilities for the health and welfare of animals under current legislation and codes of practice

LANRVN30

Administer medication and diet to 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	RVN30
Relevant occupations	Animal care and veterinary science; Animal Care Services
Suite	Veterinary nursing and auxiliary services
Key words	nurses, methods, BER
