

Prepare animal patients for surgery

Level 4

Credits 5

Purpose People credited with this unit standard are able to: provide information on routine pre-operative patient care, perform related administrative tasks, and assess animal's condition; prepare, administer and record pre-medication; and prepare the patient for surgery, and transport and position the patient.

Subfield Animal Care and Handling

Domain Veterinary Nursing

Status Registered

Status date 26 July 2005

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Planned review date 31 July 2009

Entry information Prerequisite: Unit 5179, *Conduct preliminary clinical examination of an animal*, or demonstrate equivalent knowledge and skills.

Accreditation Evaluation of documentation and visit by NZQA, industry and teaching professional in the same field from another provider.

Standard setting body (SSB) Primary Industry Training Organisation

Accreditation and Moderation Action Plan (AMAP) reference 0228

This AMAP can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Special notes

- 1 For credit, evidence must be in accordance with the statutory and industry requirements contained in the following documents.
Relevant and current National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (NAWAC) Codes of Welfare and Codes of Recommendations and Minimum Standards, available at <http://www.maf.govt.nz>, under animal welfare.
Relevant New Zealand Veterinary Association (NZVA) standards, available from NZVA, PO Box 11-212, Manners Street, Wellington (<http://www.vets.org.nz>), including the current versions of *Standard Procedures for Veterinary Nursing and Animal Care* (referred to in this unit standard as *standard procedures*); BESTPRACTICE™ *Standards for Companion Animal and Large Animal Combined Module for Mixed Practices*; and *New Zealand Veterinary Association (NZVA) Members' Manual*.
NZFSA, *ACVM Standard for Prescription Animal Veterinary Medicines*. ISBN 0-478-07723-8, available from the NZFSA website, <http://nzfsa.govt.nz/acvm>.
New Zealand Standard NZS 4304:2002 *Management of Healthcare Waste*.
Animal Welfare Act 1999, Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary Medicines Act 1997, Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992, and any subsequent amendments.
- 2 Definition
In-house procedures refer to the documented policies and procedures for animal handling and ethical behaviour codes required by the employer, consistent with NZVA BESTPRACTICE™ standards.

Elements and performance criteria

Element 1

Provide information on routine pre-operative patient care, perform related administrative tasks, and assess animal's condition.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Information is given on the procedure for dropping off and picking up, and pre-operative care prior to admission according to standard procedures.

Range	restriction of food/water, management of present medication, exercise, opportunity to defecate and urinate.
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- 1.2 Details relative to surgery are collected and recorded, and admission forms are completed according to the NZVA Members' Manual.

Range	animal history, owner details, anaesthetic consent form.
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- 1.3 Animal's condition is assessed by routine clinical examination according to standard procedures.

Element 2

Prepare, administer and record pre-medication.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Common pre-medication drugs are described in terms of their effects, contraindications, and precautions for use.
- Range may include but is not limited to – Atropine, Acetylpromazine, Valium, Xylazine, Pethidine, morphine; evidence of three is required.
- 2.2 Pre-medication is prepared in the form and dose and given by routes as directed by the veterinarian and consistent with current legislation.
- 2.3 Observations are recorded according to in-house procedures.
- Range includes but is not limited to – time, drug, route given.

Element 3

Prepare the patient for surgery, and transport and position the patient.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Surgical site is clipped according to standard procedures.
- 3.2 Skin is prepared by first scrub with consideration to location, condition of patient, and type of surgery, according to standard procedures.
- 3.3 Patient is transported to surgery ensuring patent airways, monitors are checked as functioning, and body temperature and comfort are maintained.
- 3.4 Patient is positioned, as directed by the veterinarian, to maintain and monitor airways and permit free flow of intravenous drip and circulatory flow to limbs.
- 3.5 Poor positioning is described in terms of potential problems during and post-procedure.
- Range post-operative discomfort, nerve damage, heat loss, circulatory interference or compromise, inability to monitor effectively, inadequate surgical access.
- 3.6 Site is prepared by sterile scrub, with consideration to location and condition of patient according to standard procedures.
- 3.7 Wastes are disposed of according to current waste management standards, and clippers are cleaned after each use and stored according to manufacturer's instructions.

Please note

Providers must be accredited by NZQA, or an inter-institutional body with delegated authority for quality assurance, before they can report credits from assessment against unit standards or deliver courses of study leading to that assessment.

Industry Training Organisations must be accredited by NZQA before they can register credits from assessment against unit standards.

Accredited providers and Industry Training Organisations assessing against unit standards must engage with the moderation system that applies to those standards.

Accreditation requirements and an outline of the moderation system that applies to this standard are outlined in the Accreditation and Moderation Action Plan (AMAP). The AMAP also includes useful information about special requirements for organisations wishing to develop education and training programmes, such as minimum qualifications for tutors and assessors, and special resource requirements.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact the Primary Industry Training Organisation standards@primaryito.ac.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.