

14. SURGERY

Objective: Safety of patients and workers requires that surgery take place in a manner that is aseptic and reduces the risk of nosocomial infections in patients.

Major surgical procedures performed on companion animals may only be performed in a surgical suite in a hospital. An exception is a practice that is accredited to perform certain major surgical procedures (e.g., spays and neuters) on companion animals through a Surgical Mobile for Companion Animals. See C. Surgical Mobile for Companion Animals.

Certain major surgical procedures on large animals are performed at the location where the animal is kept. It is also recognized that certain major surgical procedures on large animals performed in a hospital may not always be performed in a surgical suite (e.g., bovine caesarian section or equine castration). B. Mobile for Large Animal Ambulatory Surgery applies.

This ASPS accepts some limitation in the principles of sterile techniques and recognizes the practical challenges for veterinarians carrying out major surgical procedures (e.g. bovine caesarian section, equine castration) for large animals outside of the surgical suite or in the field. Necessary steps must be taken to reduce the risk of infections. The principles of aseptic technique are applied as appropriate and practical for the specific surgical procedure and conditions.

B. MOBILE FOR LARGE ANIMAL AMBULATORY SURGERY Requirements

	YES	NO	N/A
1. Surgical lighting suitable for the accurate illumination of surgical sites on the patient is available. A surgical light is intended to assist the veterinarian and team member during a surgical procedure by illumination of a local area or cavity of the patient.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. A standard accepted procedure is used to prepare the patient for surgery. All team members involved in the pre-surgical preparation of patients understand the risk and sources of bacterial contamination.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Supplies to perform hand and arm scrub are present including an appropriate surgical scrub agent.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. There is a range of suitable sterile surgical instruments, supplies, consumables and suture materials for the work undertaken.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

B. MOBILE FOR LARGE ANIMAL AMBULATORY SURGERY Requirements			
	YES	NO	N/A
5. Surgical instrumentation and reusable supplies must be properly cleaned, sterilized and in good repair. Cold sterile is not an acceptable sterilization method for surgical instruments to be used for major surgery.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Autoclaves and other sterilization equipment are maintained and serviced in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. A steam sterilizer of sufficient size to sterilize the quantity of surgical packs necessary for the expected case load is present.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Separate sterilized surgical packs are used for each major surgical procedure. A means to confirm sterilization is used.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Proper surgical attire is worn during aseptic procedures.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Informed client consent for surgery is documented in the record. For large animals informed consent for surgery permits verbal consent or written consent. If the client consents verbally, then there is a note in the record to indicate this.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Medical record-keeping systems are in place that include surgical treatment details and all team members involved in the surgery. Surgical Logs are maintained separately or in combination with Anesthetic Logs. The surgical log enables auditing of surgical outcomes.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

B. MOBILE FOR LARGE ANIMAL AMBULATORY SURGERY Requirements			
	YES	NO	N/A
<p>11. Surgical Laser Surgery</p> <p>If laser surgery is performed, a practice team member is designated as the person in charge of laser safety and ensures that the practice adheres to established safety precautions.</p> <p>Dispersion of laser plume contains toxic gases and biological particles and as such an appropriate air evacuation system must be used.</p> <p>Eye wear must be worn while providing laser surgery.</p> <p>Laser protective eye wear must be labeled with the same wavelength as is emitted by the laser that is to be used.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Notes Section: Explain or list the equipment and supplies at your facility and how the requirement is met. Describe any processes or procedures in place at your facility to meet the requirement.</p>			