LIST OF PRACTICAL EXAMINATION PROCEDURES
SAVC REGISTRATION EXAMINATION
VETERINARY NURSES - 2018

[NOTE: This is not a complete list of common procedures. It is a list of procedures designed to test the candidate’s competence. Candidates must be able to complete / explain / demonstrate any one or more of the following procedures / actions.]

THEATRE PRACTICE

Small animals, production animals and horses unless specified

- Apply a surgical head cover for staff
- Apply shoe covers
- Apply a face mask
- Aseptically gown
- Aseptically glove
- Surgical scrub
- Position small animals in dorsal recumbency
- Position small animals in sternal recumbency
- Position small animal in lateral recumbency
- Place a fenestrated drape
- Use four corner draping
- Drape a patient for ovariohysterectomy
- Drape a production animal for a rumenotomy
- Maintain a sterile surgical field
- Maintain an orderly trolley
- Open a wrapped sterile pack
- Open sterile aseptor packets
- Open sterile peel back packets
- Organise an instrument trolley
- Do an instrument count
- Do a swab count
- Pass instruments in the correct manner
- Swab an operation field
- Cut sutures during suturing process
- Apply surgical haemostasis
- Apply topical haemostatic agents
- Apply a tourniquet to control diffuse bleeding during surgery of extremities
- Dispose of surgical waste
- Prepare items for steam sterilisation
- Use, maintain and care for circulating water blankets and electric blankets
- Operate, maintain and care for suction apparatus
- Operate, maintain and care for Diathermy and/or Hyfrecators
- Identify surgical instruments and know their functions
- Care for and handle surgical instruments in a correct manner
- Store surgical instruments
- Inspect and test surgical instruments
- Thread suture material through a needle
- Identify needles according to shape, size, and type of point
- Care for surgical needles
- Identify suture material according to colour coding
• Identify size of suture material according to suture diameter
• Select appropriate size suture material for different tissue types
• Handle suture material correctly
• Place simple interrupted sutures with the correct knotting technique
• Remove skin sutures
• Identify the different suture patterns
• Place a ground plate for an electro-surgical unit
• Inspect all electrical equipment before use
• Select the disinfectant of choice for different types of materials

SURGICAL NURSING

Small animals, production animals and horses unless specified

• Wound lavage and management
• Physiotherapy
• Apply bandages
• Place an endotracheal tube (small animals)
• Pre-operative preparation of the surgical patient
• Position a patient correctly for surgery
• Post-operative patient care of all surgical patients
• Pre-operative nursing of fracture cases
• Post-operative nursing of fracture cases
• Perform 2% Fluorescein stain
• Perform Schirmer tear test
• Prepare a cytological sample of the eye
• Take conjunctival swabs
• Administer eye medication
• Prepare a patient for periodontal therapy (small animals)
• Perform a basic scale and polish (small animals)
• Perform a basic oral examination on a horse
• Develop a dental radiograph
• Position a patient correctly for the different radiographic views of the skull and mandible

MEDICAL NURSING

Small animals, production animals and horses unless specified

• Skin scrape
• Hair pluck
• Woods lamp examination
• Blood smear
• Faecal float
• Faecal analysis
• Wet prep
• Faecal smear
• Collection of faecal material
• Collection of urine free flow method (small animals)
• Urinalysis
• Cardiac auscultation - normal heart sounds
Place an over the needle (Jelco or Bardicath) catheter
Pass a stomach tube (small animals)
Place naso-oesophageal tube (small animals)
Work out tube feeding regimens
Set up and monitor i/v infusions
Work out drip rates
Spike a drip
Work out revised drip rates when spiked
Physiotherapy (coupage, passive muscle movement, hydrotherapy)
Examine rumen motility (production animals)
Rumen fluid examination (production animals)
CMT (California mastitis test) (production animals)
Set up and monitor i/v fluid administration
Restrain patients

RADIOGRAPHY

Assist with small animal and equine radiography sessions
Have knowledge of routine equine and small animal radiographic techniques
Have knowledge of routine equine radiographic positioning
Perform routine radiographic procedures on small animal cases
Observe and assist in exotic pet radiography cases
Prepare patient for contrast study procedure
Clean radiographic screens
Identify films permanently in the emulsion by means other than the actinic marker system
Process a latent image into a permanent visible image
Produce a full set of radiographs of good quality from a presented case
Evaluate radiographic images by applying an effective critique method
Give instructions on positioning and handling of cases
Evaluate the quality of X-ray images

ANAESTHESIA

Small animals

Care of anaesthetic machine
Induction of anaesthesia
Intubation
Inhalation maintenance
Monitoring of anaesthesia
Local anaesthetic blocks
Cardiopulmonary resuscitation
Post anaesthetic care
Pre-operative care
Administer analgesia
Anaesthetic records
REPRODUCTIVE NURSING

Small animals, production animals and horses unless specified

- Place a progestagen sponge in an ewe
- Remove a progestagen sponge from an ewe
- Monitor female animals during parturition
- Care of neonates
- Feeding of neonates
- Collect and store colostrum
- Thaw frozen semen straws and load the AI pistolette
- Manage a nitrogen flask
- Sheath wash bull
- Prepare vaginal smears of a bitch
- Evaluate vaginal smears of a bitch
- Vaginoscopic monitoring of the oestrous cycle in a bitch
- Identify and use obstetric instruments
- Correct simple abnormal posture with dystocia ewe
- Correct simple abnormal posture with dystocia cow

GENERAL NURSING

- Evaluate temperature (small animals, production animals and horses)
- Evaluate pulse (small animals, production animals and horses)
- Evaluate respiration (small animals, production animals and horses)
- Examine ocular mucous membranes small animals, production animals and horses
- Examine nasal mucous membranes
- Pass a stomach tube small animals
- Blood collection cephalic vein small animals
- Blood collection jugular vein horse
- Blood collection middle coccygeal vein cattle
- Blood collection cephalic vein small stock
- Blood collection jugular vein small stock
- Administer an enema small animals
- Tablets and capsules per os small animals
- Fluids per os small animals
- Subcutaneous injection small animals
- Subcutaneous injection horses
- Intra-muscular injection small animals
- Intra-muscular injection production animals
- Intra-muscular injection horses
- Intra-venous injection small animals
- Intra-venous injection production animals
- Intra-venous injection horses
- Apply topical creams and ointments
- Apply eye and ear medication
- Administer oxygen
- Bandage trunk small animals
- Bandage inguinal region small animals
- Bandage pendulous ear small animals
- Bandage erect ear small animals
• Bandage foot small animals
• Bandage neck small animals
• Bandage short tail small animals
• Bandage long tail small animals

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