

Surgery steps checklist
01-05-2018

Week before surgery

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Day(s) before surgery

- o Prepare the instrument pack
- o Up to 5 animals per pack, always add extra supplies just in case
- o Instruments, swabs, drapes, indicator strip, gauze
- o Wrap and tape with the date
- o Autoclave the pack
- o Good for 6 months then re-autoclave if still dry and intact
- o Wrap or sleeve options for pack outer
- o Autoclave must be certified every 3 months
- o BT Sure Form available with instructions, use BT Sure spore killing test
- o DLAR provides BT Sure

Day of surgery

- o Prepare 4 areas: animal prep, surgeon prep, surgical area, recovery

Surgeon prep:

- o PPE
- o Surgical gloves
- o Hand soap and towels

Animal prep

- o Shave station
- o Scrub station:
 1. Chlorhexidine Solution or Betadine scrub
 2. Alcohol
 3. Chlorhexidine Solution or Betadine solution

- o Saline
- o Analgesia
- o Syringes/needles
- o Eye lube
- o Heat source

Bubble wrap or Styrofoam OK for short procedure
Gel pack microwave—confirm it's not too hot
No electric heating pads!

Surgical area

- o Heat source = warm water circulator
 - Bubble wrap or Styrofoam OK for short procedure
 - Gel pack microwave—confirm it's not too hot
 - No electric heating pads!
- o Alcohol to clean instruments prior to bead sterilizer
- o Temperature probe clean with alcohol pad, lubricate

Recovery:

- o Clean cages—bottoms only = OK, you can reuse wire lid, filter top
- o Heat source

Incubator ideal

Warm water circulator under cage next best

Possibly heat lamp on a portion of the cage with close supervision

No electric heating pads!

- Put liner/paper towel on top of bedding
- Boost or Hydrogel
- Post op cage card

Immediately before starting surgery

- Turn on warm water circulating pump/blanket
- Turn on bead sterilizer
- Prep isoflurane vaporizer--Wear a mask
- Turn on O2 tank
- O2 set to 0.5-1 L/min
- Open prep solution tubes and swabs

- Cap mask gown—everyone in the suite
- Weigh the mouse/rat and document
- Calculate analgesic
Meloxicam 5 mg/kg v-0.00

- Turn off anesthetic
- Clean and dry fur
- Remove temp probe
- Place animal in recovery cage on heating pad/incubator
- Post-op monitoring:
- BID (twice daily) x 3 days
- SID (once daily) x 4 days
- Weekly for life
- Remove sutures or wound clips at 10-14 days
- If animal dies, label bag and necropsy request form

Clean up

- Turn off gas, oxygen tank, weigh and record weight of F/air canisters, discard after 50g weight gain
- Clippers brush to clean, spray with cleaner/lubricant while on
- Bloody items and tissue in red waste bin in 091