

Prepare the clinical environments in a veterinary practice

Overview

This standard is about preparing the clinical environments in a veterinary practice. It includes the preparation of examination rooms, and the availability of equipment and materials.

This standard is suitable for auxiliary care assistants working under the direction of qualified veterinary staff.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. prepare examination rooms and other clinical environments for use according to the veterinary services being delivered and in accordance with relevant veterinary practice protocols
2. check that the clinical environment is suitable for the species of the veterinary patient, medical condition and the medical procedure or investigation to be carried out
3. follow the required veterinary practice infection control protocols whilst working in clinical environments in a veterinary practice
4. wear the required clothing and personal protective equipment (PPE)
5. check the condition of veterinary materials and equipment in accordance with the relevant veterinary practice protocols
6. dispose of surplus and waste materials according to relevant veterinary practice procedures
7. report any problems to qualified veterinary staff
8. carry out your work in accordance with the relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, animal health and welfare legislation, risks assessment requirements, codes of practice and business policies

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. how to prepare clinical environments, the equipment and materials for medical procedures and investigations carried out in a veterinary practice
2. the clinical environmental conditions required for medical procedures and investigations and how to adjust them
3. the relevant veterinary practice infection control procedures
4. the types of clothing and personal protective equipment (PPE) required for activity
5. the types of equipment and materials used for the medical procedures and investigations that are carried out in a veterinary practice, and the stock levels required
6. the surplus and waste materials produced by medical procedures and how to handle and dispose of these in accordance with the relevant veterinary practice protocols
7. the relevant veterinary practice procedures for handling problems such as faults with equipment and supply of materials when preparing clinical environments and when to report these to qualified veterinary staff
8. the reasons why it is important to ask for guidance from qualified veterinary staff
9. why the clinical environment should be kept safe and secure prior to the medical procedure or investigation
10. your responsibility under the relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, animal health and welfare legislation, codes of practice and business policies

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Scope/range

A. **prepare** clinical environments in a veterinary practice according to the service which could include:

1. examination
2. sample collection
3. fluid therapy
4. medication
5. applying dressings and bandages
6. diagnostic procedures

B. prepare clinical environments, equipment and materials for the following **veterinary patients**:

1. cats
2. dogs
3. exotics
4. equine

C. prepare the following **clinical environments in a veterinary practice**:

1. examination rooms
2. animal accommodation

D. check that services are available to maintain the following environmental conditions:

1. levels of light
2. temperature
3. ventilation
4. noise

E. check **veterinary materials** in terms of:

1. expiry dates
2. level of deterioration
3. quantity
4. damage

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5. schedule
6. storage requirements

F. identify the following **damage or faults** in the examination room:

1. spills
2. non-functioning equipment and/or fixtures and fittings

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