Skill Group 1

Clinical Skills (Requires contact with all common veterinary species.)

- Demonstrate knowledge of routine surgical procedures and related equipment for the following:
  - Ovariohysterectomy—dogs and cats
  - Caesarean section—all common veterinary species
  - Orthopedic procedures
  - Orchiectomy—all common veterinary species
  - Tail docking
  - Onychectomy—dogs and cats
  - Laparotomies—all common veterinary species
  - Dystocia in common veterinary species
  - Dehorning—cattle and goats
  - Prolapsed organs—common types, species, and incidence
- Recognize common domestic animal species and breeds.
- Demonstrate knowledge of routine surgical procedures and related equipment.
- Participate in canine and feline ovariohysterectomy and orchiectomy surgeries.
- Properly identify patients and surgical procedures.
- Prepare surgical site using aseptic techniques.
- Position patient for common procedures.
- Palpate the urinary bladder and express it as needed.

Description

- Demonstrate the ability to recognize common species and breeds of animals.
- Identify patients based on species, breed, sex, and medical condition that may undergo various surgical procedures.
- Understand the necessary steps and equipment required to perform an ovariohysterectomy and orchiectomy on canine and feline surgeries.
- Assist the veterinarian during ovariohysterectomy and orchiectomy surgeries for dogs and cats.
- Aseptically prepare surgical sites.
- Position patients safely and comfortably for common surgical procedures.
- Palpate canine and feline urinary bladders and express prior to abdominal surgical procedures.

Criteria

- Differentiate common animal species, breeds, and characteristics:
  - Canine
  - Feline
  - Ruminant
  - Equine
  - Avian
- Small mammals, including rabbit and rodent
- Assist the veterinarian during canine and feline ovariohysterectomies and orchiectomies.
  - Aseptically prepare surgical sites:
    - Outside of the operating room, use a #40 clipper blade to shave the surgical site, removing fur from 15cm in each direction of the proposed incision or greater if requested by the surgeon.
    - For feline orchiectomy, the fur on the scrotum may alternatively be plucked with your fingertips.
    - Use a surgery-dedicated vacuum to remove clipped fur from the body, placing your hand between the patient's body and hose to avoid aggressive suction of the patient's skin.
    - Wearing exam gloves and covering your scrub suit with a lab coat or disposable gown, perform a preliminary scrub to remove gross debris from the clipped skin with antiseptic-soaked gauze sponges.
    - Perform a rinse of the antiseptic scrub with saline-soaked gauze sponges.
    - Cover the clipped skin with a sterile huck towel, remove your lab coat or disposable gown and exam gloves, and transfer the patient to the operating room.
    - With the patient properly positioned for the surgical procedure, don a new pair of exam gloves, and remove the huck towel.
    - Perform the "bullseye" technique surgical scrub with an antiseptic agent and saline, ensuring the hand that scrubs the body isn't also used to remove the gauze sponges from their container.
    - Remove a single antiseptic-soaked gauze sponge from its container with one hand, and pass the sponge to your other hand. Use the other hand to initiate the scrub, folding the sponge into a tiny square, and gently scrubbing the skin in an outward circular motion beginning at the center of the proposed incision and ending at the edge where the clipped skin meets the fur. Discard the used sponge.
    - Repeat the process with a single saline-soaked gauze sponge to remove the

antiseptic solution from the skin. Discard the used sponge.

        - Perform a minimum of three scrub/rinse cycles, ensuring the antiseptic scrub contact time meets the manufacturer's recommendations.
    - Palpate and express canine and feline bladders prior to abdominal procedures:
        - Place a towel or absorbent pad under the hind end of the animal.
        - With the animal anesthetized and in lateral or dorsal recumbency, utilize one or two hands to identify the urinary bladder.
        - Start with the hands cupped in a C-shape at the caudal aspect of the ribs, and gently palpate the abdominal contents moving cranial to caudal.
        - When a "water balloon-like" structure has been identified, apply firm but gentle pressure with one or both hands from the cranial to caudal aspect, to express the contents.
    - Appropriately position patient for common procedures.

Repetitions Needed for Successful Performance: 4 (1 for each procedure and species)

Animal Usage: Clinical procedures should not be performed on animals more often than once every three days, and no animal may be used for more than three total procedures, unless the attending veterinarian determines that there's a medical reason to perform the procedure. Students are allowed a maximum of two attempts per procedure per animal.

Materials Submitted for Evaluation

- For the following procedures, indicate the reason for the procedure, the species, positioning for the procedure, and the specialized surgical instruments needed for each procedure. For the procedures that say "all common species," you must identify the common veterinary species covered in this externship to which the procedure applies. Be sure to cite your sources in APA format.
    - Caesarean section—All common species
    - Dystocia—all common species
    - Laparotomies—all common species
    - Orchiectomy—all common species
    - Orthopedic procedures—dog and cat
    - Onychectomy—dog and cat
    - Tail docking (for non-cosmetic reasons)—dog
    - Dehorning—cattle and goats

- Identify two common types of organ prolapse and identify the incidence and the common veterinary species in which they would occur. Be sure to cite your sources in APA format.
- Videos of you surgically prepping and positioning patients for the following procedures that you assisted with:
    - One canine ovariohysterectomy
    - One feline ovariohysterectomy
    - One canine orchiectomy
    - One feline orchiectomy
- Skill Group 1, endorsed by clinical site supervisor with a passing grade on all components