

MVMA State Fair Surgery Suite

Student Responsibilities

MVMA office 651-645-7533

Kelly Andrews (MVMA) – cell 651-895-6640

Shelley Cravens (on-site LVT): 605-553-7451

Sx Suite Committee Co-Chair: Dr. Krista Walkowiak 651-308-8160

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Thank you for volunteering to assist at the State Fair Surgery Suite. We hope you will find the experience rewarding. This is the 34th year the MVMA has conducted surgery demonstrations at the Fair, and this public education project has been very well received.

Student in Surgery Suite: Your role in this demonstration is to provide general assistance to the technician and veterinarians. **One full shift includes two surgeries. Your priority while in the surgery suite is patient recovery.** The presence of the student assistant makes the difference between a smooth demonstration and a chaotic and stressful one so it is important that someone is present for every shift. We really value your assistance.

* **Students on the morning shift are requested to be present in the Surgery Suite from 8:30 am until 1:30 pm.**

* **Students on the afternoon shift should arrive at 1:00 pm and stay until about 6:00 pm.**

Student Moderator: Your role is to assist the DVM moderator with moderating the surgery. Please arrive 60 minutes prior to your scheduled surgery (e.g. 9am and 1 pm). Coordinate with surgeon, veterinary technician and veterinary student what needs to be accomplished in the surgery suite (set-up, pre- and post-surgical exams, animal medication, diagnostics (CBC, Chem, Coag panel, urinalysis, microphone set-up, video set-up). Dress code can be scrubs or business casual attire.

The on-site technician may let you go sooner or ask you to stay longer depending on how final cleanup and recoveries are going, but plan at least for the above times. If a personal crisis prevents you from working your shift you are responsible for finding another student with whom you can exchange shifts and notify the MVMA office.

General Information

The purpose of the Surgery Suite is for public relations and education. We want to show the public that surgery on pets is taken seriously and performed professionally, with the techniques and care that people want for their pets. We want to demonstrate and discuss the value of professional veterinary care. We also want to educate the public about the pet overpopulation problem and promote spaying and neutering as an important part of the solution.

The dogs/cats used for the demonstrations are all from local rescue organizations. They will be returned to either the rescue location or foster home after the surgery and will be available for adoption. It is hoped these dogs/cats will benefit directly by being more adoptable if already sterilized.

The on-site veterinary technician, Shelley Cravens is responsible for keeping the surgeries organized and on schedule and manages the Surgery Suite. She will direct you how best to be of assistance. Although we want this to be interesting for you, constraints of time and an audience mean that this is not an opportunity to try techniques at which you are not expert (e.g. the technician may choose to place all IV catheters personally).

Please bring your own scrubs if you have them. You will be required to wear scrubs, a cap, mask, and shoe covers (provided) whenever you enter the actual surgery room. You will be encouraged to assist the surgeon with opening the pack and handing them a sterile scalpel blade and suture. You may also need to assist the technician as needed with anesthesia and especially monitoring recoveries. If an emergency arises, the suite is stocked with medications and oxygen for the veterinarian's use. We are committed to providing the best care we can for the dogs and cats, but with the awareness of the presence of an audience whom we would prefer not to alarm. The surgeon will make all medical decisions.

STUDENT:

If you cannot participate at the last minute for any reason - Please find your replacement and notify the MVMA office IMMEDIATELY.

If you are in the Clinical Skills class, please remember to bring your check-off list to the Surgery Suite.

Surgery Suite Schedule

8:30-9:00 am: Receive dogs/cats from shelter. Verify 1) gender 2) state of health 3) sexually intact status (shave females and palpate males). Confirm that the correct rescue name is posted on the building.

9:00-9:15 am: Take two photos of each dog/cat to display on computer monitor. Put ID card on each cage with dog's/cat's weight.

Technician and/or veterinarian place IV catheters and cover with Vet-Wrap. Assist the technician in drawing blood and running a CBC, UA, and mini-chemistry profile on all dogs/cats. Veterinarian performs a physical exam on all 4 patients.

9:30 am: Veterinary technician gives pre-meds to first surgery dog/cat. Set out surgeon's size gown, gloves, cap, mask, booties and preferred suture, blade, and gauze. Once surgeon is dressed in scrubs, adjust table height and then turn on video equipment and adjust focus on camera. Place wrapped pack in surgery with supplies.

9:40 am: Bring dog/cat into prep room for IV induction. Assist in intubation and connect to Isoflurane. Place pulse oximeter sensor on the patient's tongue to monitor patient in Prep room. Surgeon should cap, mask and begin scrub. Express dog's/cat's bladder, clip and perform surgical scrub of area. Remove pulse oximeter.

9:50 am: Wearing scrubs & mask, transport dog/cat into surgery and place on table. Turn on overhead surgery light and set table height according to surgeon. Perform one last scrub once camera is adjusted to surgical site.

10:00 am: First surgery. Help surgeon glove and gown, and remain ready during surgery to provide extra suture, etc.

11:00 am: Once surgery is over, return dog/cat to prep room. Replace pulse oximeter for monitoring purposes during recovery. Leave IV catheter in place until dog/cat is sternal. Place patient on the Bair Hugger blanket and monitor temperature (if needed). Move to cage. Cover with towels or use Bair Hugger if necessary (if used, watch for destructive chewing). Monitor patient by checking respiration, mucous membrane color, comfort, etc.

11:15-11:30 am: Clean surgery, wash instruments and re-wrap pack if needed. Remove IV catheter once patient is sternal.

11:30 am: Lay out surgeon's equipment.

12:00 noon: Second surgery see 9:40 and 9:50am

1:00-1:30 pm: Surgeon for the morning will remain in the unit until the second dog/cat is sternal and recovering without complications. Afternoon staff should arrive at 12:30/1pm. Clean and re-wrap second pack. PM surgeon must review physical exams of all 4 patient.

1:30 pm: Pre-meds to 3rd dog/cat. Verify new surgeon's equipment choices. Adjust table/lights if necessary and recheck camera.

2:00 pm: Third surgery see 10:00am

3:00 pm: Recovery & clean-up, see 9:40 and 9:50am

3:30 pm: Pre-meds to 4th dog/cat.

4:00 pm: Fourth surgery see 9:40 and 9:50am

5:00 pm: Recovery and clean-up, see 11:00 and 1:00. Afternoon surgeon stays in the unit until 4th dog/cat is up sternal and recovering without complications. Must perform final physical exams.

Walk all dogs, make sure cats have clean litterboxes and everyone has a small snack. Clean any remaining instruments, repack and autoclave. Clean surgery, prep area. Empty waste baskets. Check windows in surgery, clean if needed. Empty vacuum if needed. Clean and check clipper blade. Clean cages and discard cards.

6 pm: Animal Rescue facility pick-up.

Thank you for your time and dedication to volunteering at the MVMA Sx Suite! We appreciate you!