

Langford Vets - Small Animal Hospital

Job Description

Job Title: Animal Care Assistant: Surgery

Reports To: Head Surgery Ward and Head Theatre Nurse

Job Purpose:

To assist the veterinary and support staff of the Small Animal Hospital, Surgery Building, in maintaining a high standard of cleanliness and hygiene throughout all clinical areas. To assist clinicians and nursing staff with the provision of in-patient care, throughout all stages of the patient's treatment. To assist with the setting up and maintenance of rooms and equipment for Theatre and anaesthesia. There is also a requirement for a flexible working pattern and participation in the weekend rota.

Principal Accountabilities:

- Assist veterinary surgeons and nurses with clinical procedures and patient handling and restraint
- Maintain a high level of asepsis throughout the hospital including wards, theatres and prep rooms and to ensure all areas are adequately stocked with supplies and consumables.
- Assist the veterinary nurses with inpatient care including feeding, walking and cleaning of hospitalised animals.
- Assist the veterinary nurses and clinicians with in patient procedures such as bandage changes, x-rays, physiotherapy, blood sampling and catheter placement.
- Assist the anaesthesia team with setting up of equipment and restraint of patients for pre-medication and induction of anaesthesia.
- Assist with the maintenance of anaesthesia equipment, to include changing medical gas cylinders, filling vaporisers, cleaning equipment and stocking up.
- Assist with the preparation of patients for surgery, to include clipping and skin preparation.
- Assist with the setting up of theatres for surgery, to include damp-dusting theatres, setting up kits, cleaning theatres between surgeries, cleaning and packing instruments.

- Assist as a circulating member of the surgical team within theatres, to include opening of surgical kit, suture material, fetching of anaesthesia equipment, recording of consumables used.
- Set up surgical kits as per requests and checklists
- Carry out daily/weekly and monthly duties as per checklists, including end of day shut down checklists
- Maintaining accurate patient records with regards to all clinical notes, treatment, diagnoses, client communication and client /patient information
- Cleaning of staff changing rooms and toilets in absence of cleaners
- Maintaining a good working relationship with all team members
- Communicating in an effective and pleasant manner with clients and colleagues
- Carry out all other reasonable duties as requested by the Head Surgical Nurse

Person Specification

The skills, abilities, experience and knowledge outlined below provide a summary of what is required to carry out this job effectively.

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
<p>Relevant experience, Skills and Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practical experience working in a veterinary or animal based environment • Confidence and experience in effective handling and restraint of animals 	Yes	Yes
<p>Relevant Qualifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal Nursing Assistant qualification or certificate in Animal Care • Basic understanding of English language and mathematics 	Yes	Yes
<p>Communication and Interpersonal Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicating effectively with clients • Ability to work within a team • Ability to act independently 	Yes Yes Yes	
<p>Additional Criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flexible approach to work • Interest in advancing own qualifications 	Yes	Yes