



# Pre-Exam Station

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The Anesthesia Transporter delivers cats to the Pre-Exam Station. The Pre-Exam station monitors cats for complications that may occur as a result of the anesthesia, attaches the Paw Tags assigned to them during admissions, lubricates their eyes, implants the microchip, places the ear-tip clamp and transports cats to the Veterinary Examination Station. This position may also be completed by the Anesthesia Transporter.

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## Safety First

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- **Monitor the cat for complications resulting from the anesthesia**, in particular, irregular breathing, no breathing or vomiting.
- **Monitor the cat's position** as it becomes sedate. If the cat's face is blocked or its neck is twisted, tip the trap to reposition the cat, so it can breathe well.
- **If a partially anesthetized cat begins to vomit**, tilt the trap so that the cat's head is lower than its body. A partially awake cat can control its vomit reflex. **Do not remove the cat from the trap.**
- **If an anesthetized cat begins to vomit**, hold the cat with his head towards the floor, and use a cotton-tipped swab to clear the back of the throat. Do not use your finger. Have the veterinarians at the Veterinary Exam Station check the mouth for any remaining food or fluid.
- **Respiration should be >6/minute, heartbeat should be >100/minute, and gum color should be pink.** If the cat is not breathing well, or its gums are blue, take the cat immediately to the Emergency Station. **Speaking loudly and calmly say "cat not breathing" to alert vets to converge at the Emergency Station.**

*Note: Xylazine causes pale gums.*

## Special Handling

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- **When handling the cat, do not hold the scruff of its neck alone.** Always support its back and bottom too. Support the cat's head without flexing its neck, so that the airway remains straight and open.
- **Keep the cat entirely on its fleece, including its tail, head and all of its feet.** Do not allow any part of the cat's body to contact clothing, skin or anything except the fleece, in order to prevent any contamination from cat to cat.

## Station Alert

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- **Place the cat with its pee pad on the scales to weigh.** Do not place the cat directly on the scale surface. The weight of the pee pad is negligible for this clinic's purposes. The Pee Pad provides an important barrier against fomite contamination.

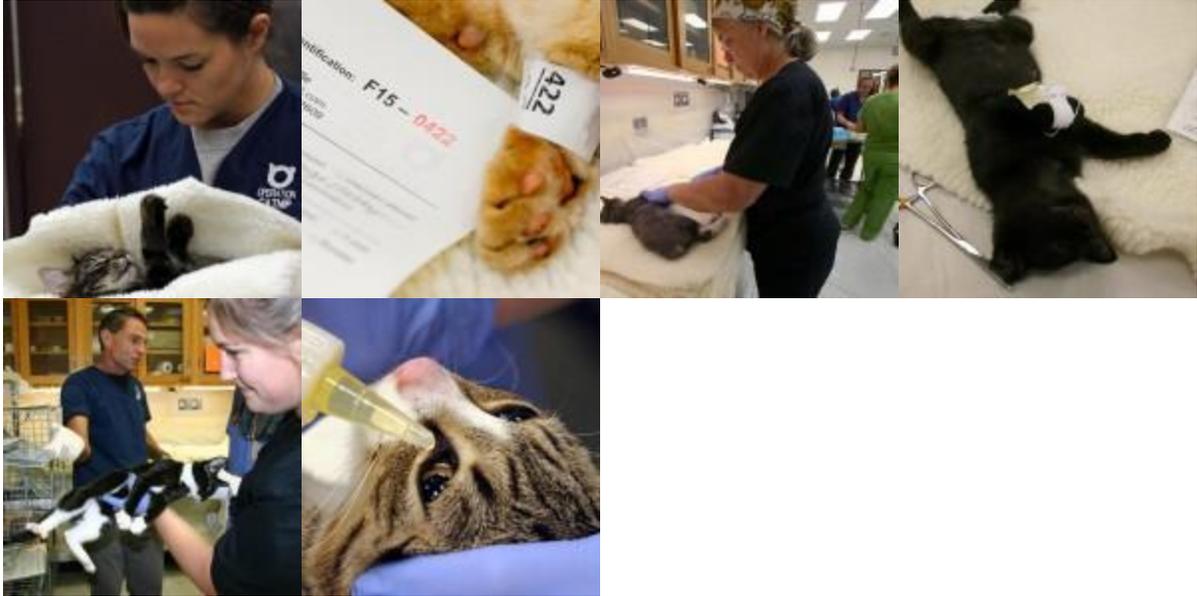
## Pre-Exam Station Instructions

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1. **Compare the Paw Tag and the Medical Record** to be sure the ID# matches.
2. **Wrap the Paw Tag around the left front paw**, and staple the ends together so that it's secure. No information should be written on the Paw Tag.
3. **Instill two drops of corn oil lubricant** into each eye.
4. **Remove any collars, flea collars or other items on the cat**, and attach them to the trap's handle.
5. **If the cat has vomited since induction**, note it on the Medical Record along with the time.
6. **Scan for a microchip.** If found note the chip number in the space provided on the Veterinary Examination Record.
  - a. If no chip found implant microchip in between the shoulder blades.
  - b. Scan again to confirm proper placement then place sticker on medical record.
  - c. Place one sticker on the rabies certificate and one on the Vet Exam form.
  - d. Place remaining stickers in plastic sleeve.
7. **Weigh the cat.** Make sure the cat is entirely positioned on the fleece when placed on the scales. The weight of the fleece is negligible for this clinic's purposes, and provides an important barrier against fomite contamination.
8. Each cat must have a rice sock warmie.
  - a. Rice socks must be placed in a plastic bag to prevent fomite transfer and allow for re-use of the rice sock
  - b. The pee pad must remain between the cat and the warmie to prevent thermal burns
9. **Monitor the cat's respirations carefully**, and if normal, deliver the cat on its fleece to the Veterinary Examination Station. Support the cat's head without flexing its neck, so that the airway remains straight and open.
10. Use the ear tip guide to measure and mark the proper placement for the ear tip.
11. Place a straight hemostat straight across the tip of the left ear leaving  $\frac{3}{8}$ " exposed.
12. Use new hemostats for each cat.

## All Station Images

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## Station Closing and Cleanup

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When the clinic is concluded:

- Inventory the remaining supplies and repack the supply kits.
- Wipe and **dry** all plastic sleeves inside and out with disinfectant to clean.
- Clean all tables and the holding areas.
- Clear area of all trash and take all full trash bags to the dumpster.