

Prep Tech B

Prep Tech B clips and scrubs the incision site on female cats and cryptorchid males.

Safety First

- **Monitor the cats carefully.** 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 CPR Station. Speaking loudly and calmly say “cat not breathing” to alert vets to converge at the Emergency CPR Station. *Note: Dexmedetomidine causes pale gums.*

Special Handling

- **When transporting, do not hold the cat from 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 pee pad, 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 pee pad, in order to prevent any contamination from cat to cat.

Station Alert

- **If a cat is not fully anesthetized,** call the Clinic Supervisor to administer additional anesthesia.
- **If the cat has masking tape on the ventral abdomen, double check the Medical Record for “Already Altered”, and DO NOT PREP FOR SURGERY!** If there is any uncertainty, confirm with the Veterinary Examination Station.

Instructions

- **For surgical preparation, use the clippers designated for clean surgery** for spays, castrations and other sterile surgeries.
- **For wound care, use clippers designated for wounds** to shave abscesses and other potentially infected wounds. Never use these contaminated clippers for a spay or neuter surgical site.
- **For ringworm suspect cats, use clean clippers,** followed by placing them in a plastic baggie labelled “Ringworm” for special disinfection.

1. **Compare the Paw Tag and the Medical Record to be sure the ID# matches.**

2. **Check the Veterinary Examination Form to determine whether cats will receive a midline or flank spay:**
 - Flank spays are performed on females that are lactating and not pregnant. Check the Veterinary Examination Form for an order to prep for flank spay. With the cat on her right side, shave a 5” by 5” square on the left flank with the hip joint as the upper right corner.
 - Midline spays are performed on pregnant or non-lactating females. With the cat on her back, shave the abdomen one inch around the umbilical scar and both rows of nipples. If another scar or tattoo is exposed, contact the Clinic Supervisor to determine whether the cat has already been spayed.
3. **Check the record for Cryptorchid status.** Midline preparations are performed on cryptorchid males. Extend the shaved area to include the scrotum for castration.
4. **Review the Veterinary Examination Form to see if other surgical sites need to be shaved and prepped:**
 - If the cat has an abscess or infected wound, **DO NOT USE THE SURGICAL CLIPPERS**. Instead use clippers designated for contaminated prep.
 - Notify the Clinic Supervisor or Lead Veterinarian to arrange treatment for the wound or abscess.
 - Extreme care should be taken to prevent contamination of surrounding work surfaces.
 - If the treatment is completed at the Surgery Prep Station, document in the Medical Record.

SPECIAL ORDERS (attach alert tags)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> FLANK PREP (lactating) | <input type="checkbox"/> WOUND CLIP/CLEAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CRYPTORCHID PREP | <input type="checkbox"/> SPECIAL SURGEON (frail, unstable, etc): _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ENUCLEATION PREP | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER PROCEDURES ORDERED: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SQ FLUIDS (advanced pregnancy, lactating, dehydrated, fever, URI, etc) → ENTER <u>FLUID VOLUME</u> ON REVERSE SIDE | |

5. **Shave against the growth of the hair using a few broad strokes.** Slowly shave with the **clipper blades flat against the skin** using long slow strokes. If incorrectly held at a right angle to the skin, the clipper blades will not shave as closely and the nipples may be nicked. If shaving too quickly, the blade cannot shave as closely to the skin. Tidy up any ragged edges so that the surgical area appears neat and square.
6. **Vacuum all loose fur.** Do not allow clipped hair to remain on the cat.
7. **Clean the clippers after every few cats** using coolant spray and a toothbrush.
8. **Clean, oil and otherwise maintain the clippers** before returning them to storage when each clinic is concluded:
 - Spray the blades with coolant spray while the clippers are running.
 - Remove blades from clippers. Clean them by wiping off gross debris and brushing the teeth. Once clean of debris, use a tooth brush to clean with a disinfectant solution, then dry.
 - Apply oil to the clipper blades and wrap them individually in paper towels; place the blades in the appropriately labeled bag.
 - Wipe the clippers with Rescue® to remove hair/dirt/debris, wrap cords, and store them in the supply kit.

- Label any blades that need to be sharpened.
- 9. **Disinfect contaminated clippers used for wounds or ringworm:**
 - Spray the blades with coolant spray while the clippers are running.
 - Remove blades from clippers. Clean them by wiping off gross debris and brushing the teeth.
 - Soak in Accel® solution for 10 minutes
 - Wipe the clipper body and cords with Accel® and allow to air dry, then wrap cords.

Surgery Prep Scrubber Instructions

1. **Keep surgical scrub and solution containers on the warmers** throughout the clinic.
2. **For long-haired cats, slightly moisten and lay back the hair** at the edge of the clipped area with chlorhexidine solution (not scrub) to keep it out of the sterilized area.
3. **Hold the gauze from the top when handling**, and do not touch the bottom surface that will touch the cat's skin.
4. **Clean the shaved surgical site using one gauze square soaked in surgical scrub .** If the area is soiled, clean it completely before starting the 3-minute surgical scrub procedure. Once the surgical site is clean, begin the sterile prep using one surgical scrub gauze in the center of the prep area, circling toward the outer edge as you scrub. Slowly and gently scrub for one full minute. If the scrub is too thick, then dilute it with surgical solution:
 - Do not touch the central scrubbed area once you have touched the fur.
 - Avoid getting any scrub in the unclipped fur.
5. **Remove the scrub with gauze soaked in surgical solution** using the same circling pattern from the center outward.
6. **Repeat the procedure 2 more times** for a total of 3 times, minimizing the amount of scrub and chlorhexidine solution on the fur. Each scrub should be a minimum of one full minute. Be certain to remove all the scrub at the end of prep.
7. **If the central prep area is contaminated at any time during or after the surgical prep**, the three minute scrub must be repeated from the beginning.
8. **Lay an unfolded gauze sponge soaked in surgical solution over the surgical site**, squeezing out excess solution but leaving the gauze moist and avoiding the fur. Never let your fingers (even gloved) or anything besides the solution or chlorhexidine gauze sponges come in contact with the prepped area.
9. **Advise the Surgery Transporter, if the cat is a cryptorchid male**, is infectious, or exhibits any other condition that causes concern.

All Station Images



Station Closing and Cleanup

When the clinic is concluded:

- Inventory the remaining supplies.
- Clean the area and dispose of all trash.
- Wash all tables.
- Sweep or vacuum and mop the floor.