

Recovery Transporter

The Recovery Transporter organizes the cleaned and sanitized traps, keeps trap covers with their corresponding traps, helps match cats arriving from the Clinic Records Station with their corresponding traps and transports the cats to the Recovery Station for monitoring and to the Discharge Station when they are fully awake.

Safety First

- **Most perioperative deaths occur during the first 3 hours after surgery.** Recovery is the most dangerous period for cats undergoing surgery.
- **Cats must be monitored continuously** during this very risky period.
- **Visually monitor the cats closely.** If the cat is moving, blinking or licking, then it is recovering normally. If the cat is fully sedated, watch the chest for movement. Breathing can be very shallow and difficult to see. A normal respiratory rate is 6 or more breaths per minute. If breathing is less frequent or isn't visible at all, alert the Vaccinations Technician to do a hands-on assessment immediately.
- **Notify a veterinarian immediately,** if a cat is in distress.

Recovery Transporter Instructions

1. **Organize the traps** received from the Trap Manager in numerical order according to the Cat ID Number on the white sticker in groups based on the *tens digit* of the Cat ID
2. **Check the Paw Tag of each cat** arriving from Clinic Records Station, and locate the correct trap for the cat by matching it with the Cat ID Number:
 - If time permits, work together with the Clinic Records staff to locate traps in advance of the cat's arrival.
 - Verify that the Paw Tag and Cat ID Number match. Do not discard the Paw Tag until the cat is ready to be placed into the correct trap.
3. **Verify that the cat has been placed in the trap on its right side** with the tipped ear facing up so bleeding can be monitored.
4. **The Clinic Records Transporter will remove the Paw Tag. Verify that any other medical alert tags, hemostats, or collars have also been removed from the cat.** The Clinic Records Transporter will give the removed Paw Tag to the Recovery Transporter, who will tape it to the top of the trap, next to the Cat ID Number.
5. **Verify that the cat has been placed in the trap head first, laying on its right side,** with the tipped ear facing up so bleeding can be monitored. A cat with an amputation, enucleation, or wound on the right side may be laid left side down instead.
6. **Secure all trap latches and doors,** and use the zip ties in your station kit to strengthen questionable traps. Notify Discharge about any trap that seems poorly-secured or broken.
7. Place cats on top of rice sock warmies.

8. Alert the Recovery Monitor, if the cat is bleeding or has been flagged with other post-op complications that need monitoring.
9. **Recovery Transporters may monitor cats when they are not receiving cats from the Clinic Records Transporter. Monitors should continually “walk the line”,** checking on each and every cat in their phase of recovery. Make note of which cats aren't becoming progressively more awake as time passes, or cats who lose consciousness after having been responsive earlier, and alert a supervisor.
10. **When cats are conscious, cover the rear third of their traps with their corresponding trap covers to reduce stress.** Traps in recovery should never be completely covered, as visual observation is required until discharge.

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.