

Surgery Transporter

The Surgery Transporter collects the prepped cats from the Surgery Prep Station B, delivers them to the Spay Station for surgery and transfers cats from the Spay Station to the Records Station when surgery is finished. Working together, the Surgery Transporter and the Veterinary Assistant make sure each Spay Surgeon has a cat on the surgical table at all times.

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: Xylazine 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 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

- **Surgery Transporters should wear surgical caps and masks at all times** when in the surgery area.
- **Only Surgery Transporters, Surgeons and Veterinary Assistants are permitted in the surgical area.**
- **Alert the Veterinary Assistant, if a cat is a cryptorchid male or has been flagged as infectious,** and also advise the Vaccinations Station.

Surgery Transporter Instructions

Wear a cap and mask at all times when in the surgery area.

1. **Transport the cats** from Surgery Prep Station B to the Spay Surgeon in the order in which they are prepped, first in, first out:

- For surgeries at the Spay Surgery Station, place the cat on the spay table with the head toward the wall.
- 2. **Compare the Paw Tag and the Medical Record to be sure the ID# matches.**
- 3. **Do not touch the area that has been shaved and scrubbed** on the cat. If you do inadvertently come in contact with the area, return the cat to the Surgery Prep Station for a re-wipe.
- 4. When the spay is complete, **ask the Veterinary Assistant or the Spay Surgeon whether the Medical Record is completely filled out** before removing the cat.
- 5. **Check the incision area** to be sure all blood has been cleaned off. Never transport a cat that has blood on it.
- 6. **Remove the cat promptly** once the Medical Record is complete and the incision is clean. If there is any blood visible, ask the surgeon to clean it with peroxide before the cat leaves the station.
- 7. **Transport spayed cats on their boards to the Records Station** with their Medical Records in the plastic sleeve. The Neuter Surgeon will transfer cats to the Records Station when castration is complete.
- 8. **Transport the used instruments to the sink** and gently place them in the buckets designated for this purpose. Also, place surgical laundry in the receptacle provided.

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, including the central trough, and wipe down the entire base of the table.
- Wipe as much of the overhead surgery lamp as can be reached.
- Sweep or vacuum and mop floor.