

**ADOPTED REGULATION OF THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF  
VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

**LCB File No. R220-97**

Effective August 5, 1998

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [ ] is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §§ 2 and 3, NRS 638.070.

**Section 1.** Chapter 638 of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 and 3 of this regulation.

**Sec. 2.** *A veterinarian shall use appropriate methods of anesthesia, analgesia and sedation during each surgical procedure performed on an animal to:*

- 1. Minimize pain and distress in the animal; and*
- 2. Prevent injury to the animal.*

**Sec. 3.** *1. A veterinarian shall comply with the following requirements when putting an animal under general anesthesia:*

*(a) The animal must be given a physical examination not more than 12 hours before the anesthetic is administered. The physical examination must include, without limitation, an examination and written notation of:*

- (1) The temperature;*
- (2) The pulse rate;*
- (3) The respiration;*
- (4) The color of the mucous membrane; and*

*(5) The thoracic auscultation,  
of the animal.*

*(b) The animal must be under continuous observation while it is under general anesthesia until the swallowing reflex of the animal has returned.*

*(c) The animal must not be released until it has been examined by a veterinarian and it is ambulating. This paragraph must not be construed to prohibit the direct transfer of an animal under general anesthesia to an appropriate facility for observation.*

*(d) The following equipment must be available in the veterinary facility and must be in working order at all times:*

*(1) An anesthetic machine with breathing bags appropriate to the size of the animal under general anesthesia;*

*(2) An assortment of cuffed endotracheal tubes; and*

*(3) An oxygen delivery system.*

*(e) If it is appropriate for the species of animal when the swallowing reflex is impaired, intubation with an inspired oxygen concentration of at least 30 percent must be used.*

*(f) A method of monitoring respiration must be used, which may include, without limitation:*

*(1) Observing the chest movements of the animal;*

*(2) Watching the rebreathing bag; or*

*(3) Using a respirometer.*

*(g) A method of monitoring cardiac activity must be used, which may include, without limitation, the use of:*

*(1) A stethoscope; or*

*(2) An electrocardiographic monitor.*

*(h) Adequate surgical support, including, without limitation, an intravenous catheter, fluids and monitoring, as indicated by the status of the animal and the standard of care required of a licensed veterinarian under the circumstances, must be available.*

*(i) A written history must be maintained by the veterinarian for each animal put under general anesthesia, which must include, without limitation:*

*(1) The name or identification number of the animal.*

*(2) The medical history of the animal that is relevant to the administration of general anesthesia, which must include, without limitation, a description of any preexisting medical conditions and tests performed on the animal before surgery.*

*(3) A description of the general anesthesia used at the time of surgery.*

*(4) The method of monitoring that was used to comply with paragraphs (f) and (g).*

*2. As used in this section, “general anesthesia” means a controlled state of unconsciousness caused by a drug or combination of drugs that is sufficient to produce a state of unconsciousness or disassociation and a blocked response to pain or alarming stimulus.*