

Surgical and Non-surgical Procedure Records Requirements

Surgical, anesthetic, and non-surgical procedural records must include the following:

- Name and description of procedure
- Animal identification (as appropriate)
 - Non-rodent mammals must have individual records
 - Other vertebrates (rodents, amphibians, reptiles, birds) may have group or batch records, if they are undergoing identical procedures
- Protocol number under which the procedure was performed
- Name of operator or experimenter
- Date and time the procedure was performed
- List of physiologic parameters monitored during anesthesia, as appropriate for species, such as:
 - Heart rate
 - Respiration rate
 - Temperature
 - Assessment of anesthetic depth (e.g. lack of corneal or pedal withdrawal reflexes)
 - Others as appropriate (e.g., blood pressure, end-tidal CO₂, O₂ saturation, capillary refill time)
- Initial values of physiological parameters, and notations of any significant changes during the course of the surgery or procedure
 - Intraprocedural monitoring must be documented as appropriate for procedure and situation, as determined by the Attending Veterinarian
 - If not possible to record during the procedure, notations should be made during recovery (this applies to emergency situations only)
- Time, route, and dose of all substances administered to the animal, initialed by the person who administers
 - All drugs, including anesthetic gases
 - Any experimental compounds
 - Fluid support
- Post-surgical/post procedural records
 - Immediate post-procedural recovery records (if applicable):
 - Must be maintained until the animal is recovered from anesthesia:
 - Physiologically stable,
 - AND able to maintain normal awake posture (e.g., sternal recumbancy for dogs, sheep; upright for nonhuman primates)
 - Must be documented as appropriate for procedure and situation, as determined by the Attending Veterinarian
 - Post-surgical period ends when sutures or wound clips are removed and all post-operative complications have been resolved
- If the surgery or procedure is terminal, records must still be maintained, and euthanasia and final disposition of the animal must be recorded