

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

LCB File No. R220-97

January 22, 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.

(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 is ambulating as should be expected under the circumstances and the animal has been examined by a veterinarian. 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 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 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).

(j) Effective means must be provided for exhausting waste gases from hospital areas in which inhalation anesthesia is used. Such means may include, without limitation, the use of:

(1) Filtration canisters;

(2) Gravitational venting;

(3) Negative-suction venting; or

(4) Any combination thereof.

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.