



The Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC) stipulates in the Guide to the Care and Use of Experimental Animals, Vol. 1, (2 ed.) 1993 Standards for Experimental Animal Surgery section that

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Hair and fur should be removed from the surgical site with clippers or a medical depilatory (ensure to monitor for any post-operative skin reactions after the application). Remove all clippings from and around the animal - a small hand held vacuum is ideal. To remove very fine clippings, adhesive tape or a small lint roller may be used.

3. The surgical site must be disinfected with the following two-step process:
 - a. Gross contamination should be removed by using a surgical scrub such as chlorhexidine (Hibitane™) or povidone iodine (Betadyne™) at the surgical site. Taking care not to dampen the surrounding fur.
 - b. The surgical site should then be wiped with three alternating passages of 70% ethyl alcohol followed by povidone iodine solution or chlorhexidine solution. The disinfection should finish with either povidone iodine or chlorhexidine and allowed to dry to create a bacteriostatic barrier. All passages should start at the incision site and move towards the periphery. Once at the periphery do not return to the incision site with the used gauze.
4. Use a sterile drape to cover the surgical site (fur and extremities are contaminated, covering these areas with aseptic material greatly reduces the chances of subclinical infections aabscessatric

use skin burns.

Sutures which can be re-

21. Initial weights of the animal must be recorded on the cage card before beginning any surgical procedure. The animal's 15% weight loss must also be recorded on the cage card where it is easily seen.
22. If sutures or staples need to be replaced contact the University Veterinarian.
23. Deviations from this policy must be described and approved within the Animal Use Protocol prior to surgery.

Canadian Council on Animal Care.
Volumes 1 (1993) and 2 (1984).

Cunliffe-Beamer TL: Surgical Techniques. In Guttman HN (ed.):
. Scientists Center for Animal Welfare, Bethesda, MD, 1989

AAALAC., From AAALAC's Perspective...Using Alcohol As a Disinfectant. AAALAC Connection
Newsletter. 2001 Winter/Spring. <http://www.aaalac.org/publications/Connection>

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1000000/>