

**FACULTY OF VETERINARY MEDICINΕ**

**DEPARTMENT OF CLINICAL VETERINARY STUDIES**

**CLINIC OF SURGERY**

**DEPARTMENT OF CLINICAL VETERINARY STUDIES**

**Biosecurity Instructions for Entering Veterinary Surgical Staff Preparation Areas**

1. **Personal Protective Requirements:**

Mandatory Entry Procedure: All persons entering the area should be appropriately donned.

All individuals entering the surgical staff preparation area must wear:

Surgical masks.

Gowns or scrubs specific to the sterile environment.

Shoe covers (especially in high-risk areas).

Hair covers or surgical caps.

1. **Hand Hygiene:**

Before Entry: Hands should be washed thoroughly with soap and water, or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer should be applied containing at least 60% alcohol.

After Entry: Hands should be disinfected again before starting any procedures.

During Procedures: Frequently sanitize hands between animal handling, equipment use, and before touching sterile surfaces or instruments.

1. **Surgical staff preparation areas Controls:**

Restricted Access: entry to the preparation area is limited to only essential personnel and students.

Regular Cleaning and Disinfection: Surfaces in the preparation area must be cleaned and disinfected regularly using veterinary-approved disinfectants.

1. **Sterility Maintenance:**

No eating, drinking, or chewing gum is permitted in the prep area to prevent contamination.

Minimize Talking: Talking, coughing, or sneezing should be minimized, and when necessary, done while wearing a mask and in a controlled manner (such as covering the nose and mouth with a tissue or elbow).

Proper Handling of Instruments: All instruments and tools should be checked for sterility before use. Instruments used on one animal should not be reused without proper disinfection or sterilization.

1. **Animal Handling:**

Clean Animals Before Surgery: Animals should be cleaned and prepped (bathing, disinfection) to reduce external contamination before being brought into the surgical preparation area.

Minimize Animal Movement: Animals should not move between sterile and non-sterile areas during preparation.

1. **Exiting the Surgical Preparation Area:**

When exiting the preparation area, follow the correct order for donning removal to prevent contamination:

Remove gloves first.

Carefully remove gown or scrubs.

Clean hands immediately after removing.

Dispose of all disposable protective donning into designated biohazard waste bins. Reusable equipment should be disinfected thoroughly.

1. **Decontamination and Waste Disposal:**

Waste Handling: All biohazardous waste, including used gloves, gowns, masks, contaminated materials, and surgical waste, must be disposed of in designated biohazard containers.

Equipment Disinfection: Surgical instruments and equipment should be disinfected or sterilized between uses. Reusable items should never be used without cleaning or sterilization protocols.

* **First Aid:** A pharmacy is available in the Laboratory/Clinic room for minor injuries.
* **Medical assistance is provided at General Hospital of Karditsa (Emergency Care Unit). Telephone: 2441351520 / ΕΚΑΒ (National Service of Emergency Care) Telephone: 166.**
* **In case of fire. A Dry powder extinguisher exists on the room / Fire Service Telephone: 199.**

**Keep the Clinic/Laboaratory areas and equipment always clean**