

Carry out post-microchip-implantation activities

Overview

This standard is about carrying out post-microchip-implantation activities. It includes providing advice to the animal owner or keeper, completing records and maintaining hygiene and bio-security.

Users of the standard will need to confirm that their practice reflects current legislation and guidance, and that they work within the limits of their authority, expertise, training, competence and experience. It is also important to make sure that the animal is registered on the required databases.

Keeper in the standard could be foster carer, animal care assistant within a rescue centre, animal welfare officer within a rescue centre, professionals within the policies, security, etc.

You will need to be aware of your own limitations and confirm that you meet the legal responsibilities for providing a duty of care under the current animal health and welfare legislation.

This standard relates to the subcutaneous implantation of microchips in dogs, cats, rabbits and ferrets only. Those carrying out implantation should be aware of the circumstances in which the implantation of a microchip is considered to be an act of veterinary surgery under the current Veterinary Surgeons Act.

This standard is for anyone involved in the microchipping of animals. It is not a license to practice. To perform post-microchip-implantation activities you must have completed the required training.

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1.
 - 1.1 work professionally and ethically and within the limits of your authority, expertise, training, competence and experience
2. work in accordance with the current Veterinary Surgeons Act and Microchip Regulations and the limits of your authority, expertise, training, competence and experience
3. carry out all work in accordance with the relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, risk assessment requirements, associated codes of practice and organisational policies
4. comply with relevant the relevant animal health and welfare and animal-related legislation, associated codes of practice and organisational practice
5. maintain hygiene and biosecurity in accordance with workplace instructions, organisational practice and the relevant legislation
6. advise the owner or keeper of any potential problems following the implantation of a microchip and explain the situations where veterinary advice should be sought
7. advise the owner or keeper on the aftercare requirements following implantation
8. register the animal on the required DEFRA compliant database, where relevant to your role
9. retain a record of the chip number and the owner or keepers details for back track purposes in accordance with current data protection legislation
10. advise the owner or keeper of their responsibilities in relation to the registration of the animal and its microchip and the need to keep details up to date
11. provide a record of your contact details to the owner or keeper so they can contact you if they have any queries
12. clarify the payment required, where necessary, explain how this amount was calculated and agree how payment will be made
13. maintain communication with colleagues and all those involved in the care of the animal, including the animal's usual veterinary surgeon, and provide the relevant records where required
14. clean and store the required tools and equipment, in accordance with the relevant legislation, manufacturers' guidelines and organisational policy
15. deal with waste in accordance with workplace instructions, organisational practice and the relevant legislation

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1.
 - 1.1 your professional responsibilities when microchipping animals and the limits of your authority, expertise, training, competence and experience
2. the requirements of the current Veterinary Surgeons Act and Microchip Regulations in relation to your role and the limits of your authority and the implantation of microchips
3. your responsibilities under the relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, risk assessment requirements, associated codes of practice and organisational policies
4. your responsibilities under the relevant animal health and welfare and animal-related legislation, associated codes of practice and organisational policies
5. the importance of maintaining hygiene and biosecurity and how this can be achieved
6. the potential problems following the implantation of a microchip and when veterinary advice should be sought
7. the advice and information you will need to provide to the owner or keeper of the animal following implantation
8. how to register the animal on a DEFRA compliant database following the implantation of a microchip and the importance of doing this, where relevant to your role
9. the fees for services, how these are calculated, including costs and taxes, and the reason for each type of fee, where necessary
10. how to process payments, and any relevant forms that need to be completed, where necessary
11. the importance of advising the owner or keeper of their responsibilities for completing and maintaining the details held on the registration database
12. the records that need to be kept in relation to implanting microchips and the importance of completing these in accordance with the relevant legislation and your organisation
13. how to clean, maintain and store tools and equipment, in accordance with the relevant legislation, manufacturers' guidelines and organisational policies
14. how to handle, transport, store and dispose of waste in accordance with the relevant legal requirements and organisational policy
15. your legal and professional liability and the importance of suitable insurance

Glossary

Animal:

For the purpose of this standard the term "animal" refers to a dog, cat, rabbit or ferret.

Animal welfare legislation could be the:

- Veterinary Surgeons Act
- England and Wales, Animal Welfare Act
- Scotland, Animal Health and Welfare Act
- Northern Ireland, Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland)

Microchip implantation aftercare requirements could be:

- checking of the implantation site and what to look for
- advice on when the implantation site is safe to handle
- advice on when the animal can next be exercised
- scanning of the microchip post implantation
- reporting adverse reactions online to VMD
- migration of microchips
- appearance of a lump or swelling
- failure to scan a microchip in an animal known to have been implanted

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