

Anaesthetic protocols are part of the anaesthetic plan. *See infographic 1*

Protocols should be individualised, based on physical examination, patient temperament, degree of pain, pre-existing disease, the procedure and equipment available. ASA scoring can be useful.

The protocols below should be used as examples and be adjusted as needed. Pre-oxygenation is recommended. Suggested doses can be found in the attached notes, be aware of which licensed products are available in the country where you practice.

Multimodal analgesia is always recommended - including basic local anaesthetic techniques and NSAIDs (if no contraindications). *See infographic 3*

CASE 1

A 10-year old, healthy, calm Labrador undergoing unilateral mastectomy

Premedication: Midazolam + methadone IM

Induction: Alfaxalone IV

Maintenance: Isoflurane

Analgesia: Preop NSAID SC + fentanyl infusion or methadone bolus IV during surgery + infiltration with lidocaine or a 'splash' of lidocaine over incision + postop analgesia with NSAIDs PO +/- opioids

CASE 2

A 6-year old, healthy but fractious cat for dental cleaning + extractions

Premedication: Gabapentin PO for transportation + medetomidine + methadone IM

Induction: Propofol IV

Maintenance: Isoflurane

Analgesia: Preop NSAID SC + intraop dental blocks + postoperative analgesia with NSAIDs PO and opioid

CASE 3

A 4-month old, healthy cat undergoing ovariohysterectomy or orchiectomy (spay-neuter program without opioid availability) - opioids are recommended if available

Injectable anaesthesia protocol ("kitty magic"):

Ketamine + dexmedetomidine + midazolam IM

Analgesia: Postoperative NSAID SC or PO + intratesticular anaesthesia with lidocaine or bupivacaine (orchiectomy) OR intraperitoneal anaesthesia with lidocaine or bupivacaine

Postoperative: Atipamezole IM (if required)

CASE 4

A 1-year old, healthy, energetic dog undergoing ovariohysterectomy or orchiectomy

Premedication: Acepromazine or medetomidine + methadone IM

Induction: Propofol or alfaxalone IV

Maintenance: Isoflurane or sevoflurane

Analgesia: Postoperative NSAID SC or PO + intratesticular anaesthesia with lidocaine or bupivacaine (orchiectomy) OR intraperitoneal anaesthesia with lidocaine or bupivacaine (ovariohysterectomy)

Postoperative: NSAID orally 2-3 days
Repeat methadone or buprenorphine at discharge (if required)

DON'T FORGET

PAIN ASSESSMENT

MONITORING

EMERGENCY DRUGS

FLUID THERAPY



Paulo Steagall
MV MSc PhD DACVAA

Prof Vet Anaesthesia and Pain Management, Université de Montréal, City University of Hong Kong



Polly Taylor
MA VetMB PhD DVA DipECVAA
MRCA FRCVS

RCVS and European Specialist in Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia



www.dechra.com