

VTNE Self Study: Domain 7

Anesthesia — 20 Practice Questions

1. What is the MOST important step before anesthetizing a patient?

- A. Clipping the surgical site
- B. Performing an anesthesia machine leak test
- C. Cleaning the cage
- D. Taking radiographs

2. Which monitoring parameter is the BEST indicator of tissue oxygenation?

- A. Blood glucose
- B. Pulse oximetry (SpO₂)
- C. Body condition score
- D. Urine output

3. A dog under anesthesia suddenly develops HR 50 bpm, low blood pressure, and pale mucous membranes. What complication should the technician MOST suspect?

- A. Hypertension
- B. Bradycardia with poor perfusion
- C. Hyperglycemia
- D. Recovery excitement

4. Which structure should the endotracheal tube pass through during intubation?

- A. Esophagus
- B. Nasopharynx only
- C. Trachea
- D. Oral cavity only

5. What is the purpose of the cuff on an endotracheal tube?

- A. Secure IV access
- B. Deliver fluids
- C. Create a seal to reduce aspiration and gas leakage
- D. Monitor blood pressure

6. A cat recovering from anesthesia becomes agitated, vocal, and paddles its limbs. What anesthetic phase is MOST likely occurring?

- A. Surgical plane
- B. Recovery excitement/emergence delirium
- C. Deep anesthesia
- D. Cardiac arrest

7. Which anesthetic monitor evaluates end-tidal CO₂?

- A. Doppler
- B. Pulse oximeter
- C. Capnograph
- D. ECG

8. What is considered a normal SpO₂ reading in an anesthetized patient?

- A. 70–75%
- B. 80–85%
- C. 95–100%
- D. 50–60%

9. A dog under anesthesia suddenly stops breathing but still has a heartbeat. What should the technician do FIRST?

- A. Continue monitoring only
- B. Turn off oxygen
- C. Begin manual ventilation and notify the veterinarian
- D. Extubate immediately

10. Which breathing system is commonly used for small patients under approximately 7 kg?

- A. Rebreathing system
- B. Non-rebreathing system
- C. Open drop anesthesia only
- D. No oxygen support needed

11. Which anesthetic depth sign is MOST consistent with a surgical plane of anesthesia?

- A. Strong jaw tone and swallowing reflex
- B. Purposeful movement
- C. Relaxed jaw tone with absent palpebral reflex
- D. Conscious vocalization

12. During anesthesia, blood pressure decreases to 55 mmHg MAP. What is the technician's BEST immediate concern?

- A. Hypertension
- B. Inadequate tissue perfusion
- C. Hyperactivity
- D. Excess hydration only

13. Which patient is at HIGHEST anesthetic risk?

- A. Healthy 2-year-old elective spay patient
- B. Stable vaccinated puppy
- C. Geriatric patient with heart disease
- D. Young healthy cat

14. Which parameter should be recorded routinely on the anesthesia log?

- A. Technician lunch break
- B. Monitoring parameters and anesthetic events
- C. Fur color changes
- D. Cage location only

15. An anesthetized patient's temperature drops to 96°F. What complication is occurring?

- A. Hyperthermia
- B. Hypothermia
- C. Hyperglycemia
- D. Hypertension

16. Which drug class is MOST commonly used for pain management during anesthesia?

- A. Antibiotics only
- B. Analgesics/opioids
- C. Antifungals
- D. Vaccines

17. A brachycephalic dog recovering from anesthesia begins struggling to breathe and becomes cyanotic. What is the technician's MOST immediate concern?

- A. GI upset
- B. Airway obstruction
- C. Hyperactivity
- D. Normal recovery

18. What is the purpose of a rebreathing bag?

- A. Store IV fluids
- B. Assist ventilation and monitor respiratory movement
- C. Prevent intubation
- D. Measure blood glucose

19. A patient under anesthesia develops increasing HR, increasing BP, and increased jaw tone. What should the technician suspect?

- A. Excessive anesthetic depth
- B. Patient becoming too light under anesthesia
- C. Cardiac arrest
- D. Severe hypothermia

20. During recovery, when should an endotracheal tube generally be removed from a dog?

- A. Immediately after vaporizer is turned off
- B. Once swallowing reflex returns and airway can be protected
- C. Before monitoring ends
- D. Only after standing

Answer Key & Explanations

Domain 7: Anesthesia

1. **B** — Leak tests are critical before anesthesia
2. **B** — Pulse oximetry measures oxygen saturation
3. **B** — Bradycardia + hypotension = poor perfusion concern
4. **C** — ET tubes must enter the trachea
5. **C** — Cuff protects airway and minimizes gas leaks
6. **B** — Vocalizing/paddling = recovery excitement
7. **C** — Capnographs measure ETCO₂
8. **C** — 95–100% is ideal
9. **C** — Manual ventilation is critical for apnea
10. **B** — Small patients often use non-rebreathing circuits
11. **C** — Surgical plane = relaxed tone, minimal reflexes
12. **B** — Low MAP compromises organ perfusion
13. **C** — Geriatric cardiac patients carry higher risk
14. **B** — Accurate monitoring documentation is essential
15. **B** — Low body temperature = hypothermia
16. **B** — Opioids/analgesics are common perioperative pain medications
17. **B** — Brachycephalics are high risk for airway obstruction
18. **B** — Rebreathing bags assist ventilation assessment
19. **B** — Increased HR/BP/jaw tone suggest lighter anesthesia
20. **B** — Remove tube when airway reflexes return

Scoring Guide

18–20 Correct: VTNE Ready | 15–17 Correct: Strong Understanding | 12–14 Correct: Review Needed in Key Areas | Below 12: Focused Study Recommended