



## **The surgical skills lab at LIFE**

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## The Surgical Skills Lab at LIFE

Presented and developed by Rikke Langebæk

The Surgical Skills Lab at the Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences was opened in 2007 and is part of our eight day Basic Surgical Skills course. The course is divided into three steps, working with: 1) Toy models in the Surgical Skills Lab, 2) Cadavers and 3) Live research pigs.

Senior veterinarians are in charge of teaching, supervising and evaluating the 32-36 master year one students that attend each course.

Before attending the course, students prepare by using e-learning material developed by the Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences. This material contains narrated Power Point presentations and videos demonstrating the surgical skills and procedures that students need to acquire.

The toy models used in the Surgical Skills Lab are all developed at the department, except for one used for bandaging of lower leg (Rescue Critters). Twelve stations guide the students through surgical principles and basic skills that they are required to practise before doing surgery on the live research pigs. After a short introduction at each station, students move from station to station at their own pace and succession. Teachers are there to demonstrate, supervise and give feedback.

The stations in the Surgical Skills Lab are:

1. INTRAVENOUS CATHETERISATION (Dog)
2. PREPARATION OF THE PATIENT + INSISION LINES (Skin tumor, Dog)
3. PREPARATION OF SURGEON
4. BEHAVIOUR IN THE OR (Video)
5. KNOTTING TECHNIQUES – HAND TIES
6. HEMOSTASIS
a. LIGATION OF STUMP (In abdomen of a rat)
b. AUTOLIGATURE (Orchiectomy, cat)
c. FIGURE 8 LIGATURE (Orchiectomy, dog)

d. TRANSFIXED LIGATURE (On cervix uteri in dog)
e. DOUBLE LIGATURE (In abdomen of dog)
7. SUTURE PATTERNS
8. INSTRUMENTS AND SUTURE MATERIAL
9. DRAINAGE (Abscess on dog)
10. BANDAGING (Head, tail, lower limb)
11. LAPAROTOMY (Dog)
12. BLEEDERS (In abdomen of dog)

A selection of stations will be presented at the IVSA congress. Also, participants will get an opportunity to watch some of the videos that are part of our e-learning material.