**Heating Patients**

**Standard Operating Procedure (Page 1 of 3)**

1. **Kennel environment:**
   * + - * Use air-conditioning to warm the room.
         * Use the radiators.
2. **Individual patient:**

Head pads

* Ensure the patient does not come into direct contact with the heatpad.
* Place a Vetbed or thick blanket over the heatpad.
* Ensure the electric cable is not freely accessible to the patient or other patients, causing a health and safety hazard to patients and staff.

Snugglesafe

* Follow the manufacturer’s guidelines for heating the Snugglesafe in the microwave, then place in the Snugglesafe cover.
* Ensure the patient does not come into direct contact with the Snugglesafe.

Bair Hugger

* Select an appropriate size Bair Hugger blanket for the patient.
* Attach the blanket to the Bair Hugger unit hose, and secure in place.
* Switch the machine on.
* Select the appropriate temperature setting.
* Either place the patient on the Bair Hugger blanket or place the Bair Hugger blanket on the patient.
* Ensure there are no kinks in the blanket or unit hose, this would occlude the warm air from reaching the patient
* Ensure the kennel door is securely closed with the unit in the kennel.

Fluid warmer

* Sterilize and clean the surface of the warmer.
* Hang the warmer on the infusion pole/other support with the suspension belt and adjust belt to proper height.
* Put the infusion tube (≤4mm) into the ‘s’-shape tube channel of the warmer, and make sure that the infusion tube is placed on the bottom of the channel.
* Turn on the power: connect the power plug of the warmer with adapted AC power socket; the power indicator then keeps green which indicates the warmer has been connected with electricity.
* The run indicator keeps yellow or glittering which indicates the device has begun to work. The run indicator will go out after the heating plate reaches the working temperature (41 °C or so). Then it will begin to heat the infusion liquid.
* Alarm: the power supply will be automatically cut off when the heating plate reaches or exceeds 47 °C + 2 °C.
* Turn off the power: pull out the power plug of the device from the AC socket when transfusion has finished.
* Sterilise and clean the surface of the infusion warmer.

Blankets, foil and bubble wrap (available to wrap the patients in)

* Monitor the patient’s temperature every 15mins and record the findings on the hospital sheet. Adjust the heat source according to the patient’s temperature.
* Special care is to be taken with recumbent patients, who cannot move away from the heat source. Recumbent patients should be moved or turned every 2hrs.

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| **C** | **F** | **Heating or cooling sources** |
| 35 | 95 | Bair hugger/heatpad, fluid warmer, blanket |
| 35.5 | 95.8 | Bair hugger/heatpad, fluid warmer, blanket |
| 36 | 96.8 | Bair hugger/heatpad, blanket |
| 36.5 | 97.6 | Bair hugger/heatpad, blanket |
| 37 | 98.6 | Blanket |
| 37.5 | 98.6 | Blanket |
| 38 | 99.4 | Blanket |
| 38.5 | 100.4 | Blanket |
| 39 | 101.2 | Monitor |
| 39.5 | 102.2 | Fan |
| 40 | 103.2 | Ice packs, fan |
| 40.5 | 104 | Ice packs, fan |
| 41 | 104.9 | Bath dog in cool water, fan, ice packs |
| 41.5 | 105.5 | Bath dog in cool water, fan, ice packs |

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