

Cruciate

Isoflurane Anaesthesia Course

Introduction

This course provides researchers and animal technicians with the knowledge and skills to safely anaesthetise rats and mice with isoflurane.

Isoflurane anaesthesia has many advantages over injectable anaesthetic agents such as xylazine/ketamine. It offers greater control over depth and duration of anaesthesia, has a more favourable safety profile and facilitates rapid recovery. To successfully anaesthetise animals with isoflurane requires specialised equipment, knowledge and skills. This course provides you with these qualities and enables you to undertake this technique safely and effectively.

The course is divided into two sections. There is an initial online component followed by an all-day workshop. To progress to the workshop, you are required to achieve 100% in the online assessment and be deemed competent at handling mice by your institution. The online component should take about 3 hours to complete.

The all-day workshop is divided into two 3 hour sessions with a lunch break. The workshop takes place in a suitable training area within your facility, to allow you to become familiar with your anaesthetic equipment and facilities. In the morning session, anaesthetic machine set up and isoflurane anaesthesia will be demonstrated and in the afternoon session you will perform isoflurane anaesthesia under supervision.

To receive a Certificate of Completion, participants will need to pass the online quiz and complete an anaesthetic record in the workshop sessions. The workshops are limited to a maximum of four participants to ensure individualised attention.

Course content

This course consists of an initial online component, which provides the background knowledge to allow the administration of isoflurane anaesthesia. The online course is provided via an online Moodle site with 24/7 access. It includes photos, videos and an illustrated course manual and concludes with a quiz that requires a 100% grade to progress to the workshops.

The workshops are orientated towards the development of practical skills and cover:

- Set-up and safe operation of the anaesthetic machine.
- Preparation of the animal for anaesthesia.
- Induction of anaesthesia
- Maintenance of anaesthesia
- Monitoring of anaesthesia and completion of an anaesthetic record.
- Provision of post anaesthesia care.

Materials and equipment

Materials and equipment you will need to provide include: Personal Protective Equipment (gown, hairnet, facemask), F10, paper towel, anaesthetic machine, induction chamber and

anaesthetic breathing circuit (mask). You will need to provide a suitable training area for the two workshops. Both morning and afternoon workshops will utilize live mice (one for the morning session and one per participant for the afternoon session), which will need to be provided. If ethics approval is required for the use of training animals, it must be obtained from the Animal Ethics Committee prior to the workshops.

Ideally, at least one anaesthetic machine should be available for every two participants. I have experience in the use and set up of many different anaesthetic machines, in particular the Stinger anaesthetic machine (AAS) and the Somnosuite digital anaesthetic machine.

Your Educator

I am a veterinarian based in Melbourne and a qualified veterinary educator. I have taught anaesthesia and surgery to researchers, animal technicians and veterinary students at Sydney, Melbourne, RMIT and La Trobe Universities. I have been a member of the Austin Health and RMIT University Animal Ethics Committees and currently work part-time at La Trobe University with a focus on training, compliance and veterinary care. Recognising the lack of formalised training opportunities for researchers and animal technicians in Melbourne, I have developed courses in both isoflurane anaesthesia and aseptic surgery. These courses adopt a pragmatic approach with a focus on the practical application of these techniques in a research environment.

Pricing

In order to provide individualized instruction, the workshops are limited to a maximum of 4 participants and require a minimum of 2 participants. The cost for the complete Isoflurane Anaesthesia Course including the introductory online component, resource manual and two workshops is:

2 participants: \$1600

3 participants: \$2100

4 participants: \$2400

Enquiries or to book

If you have any queries or wish to discuss this course further, please don't hesitate to contact myself, Dr John Inns, by phone on: 0402 638 809 or email: john@cruciate.com.au. Some of the course content can be tailored to suit your specific needs. Current workshop dates are listed on cruciate.com.au under [Availability](#), but if these do not suit your requirements, please call me to arrange an alternative time.