Anaesthesia and analgesia in calves, goats, sheep and pigs used for biomedical research

Alenka Seliškar





Working Group 2020

Name	Affiliation	Representing	Specialty
Sabine Bischoff (Convenor)	Universität Jena	GV-SOLAS	Head of Animal Welfare Office
Gabrielle Musk	University of Western Australia	LASA UK	Large animal anaesthesia and analgesia
Eddie Clutton	University of Edinburgh	LASA UK	Veterinary Anaesthetist Academic Head Vet. Anaesth. Clinical Director WTCCLLA
Stéphanie De Vleeschauwer	Katholieke Universiteit Leuven	BCLAS	Designated Veterinarian Head of Surgical Science Core Facility at KULeuven
Daniela Casoni	Universitat Bern	SGV	Veterinary Anaesthetist
Alenka Seliškar	Veterinarska fakulteta Univerze v Ljubljani	SLAS	Veterinary Anaesthetist Head Anaesth Dpt. SA Clinic

Working Group; Terms of Reference

"......to review existing recommendations in veterinary (and medical) anaesthesia and analgesia in order to synthesize recommendations for the safe and practical administration of anaesthetics and analgesics that will optimize animal welfare and experimental data quality which are relevant to calves, goats, sheep and pigs used for biomedical research".

Over 270 references

Recommendations

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Procedures performed in pigs, sheep, cattle and goats
- 3. Training and methods of physical restraint
- 4. Intra-operative anaesthetic monitoring
- 5. Pain assessment
- 6. Recommendations for anaesthesia
- 7. Conclusions

1. Introduction

- Small proportion of production animals involved in research and teaching
- High severity of procedures
- Translation of clinical practices based on a strong base of evidence not always possible
- 3R → Refinement → good quality An&A with appropriately trained people → minimizing complications
 - Directive 2010/63 of the European Parliament and the Council of 22 September 2010 on the protection of animals used for scientific purposes
- Documentation and publication of An&A details arising from projects



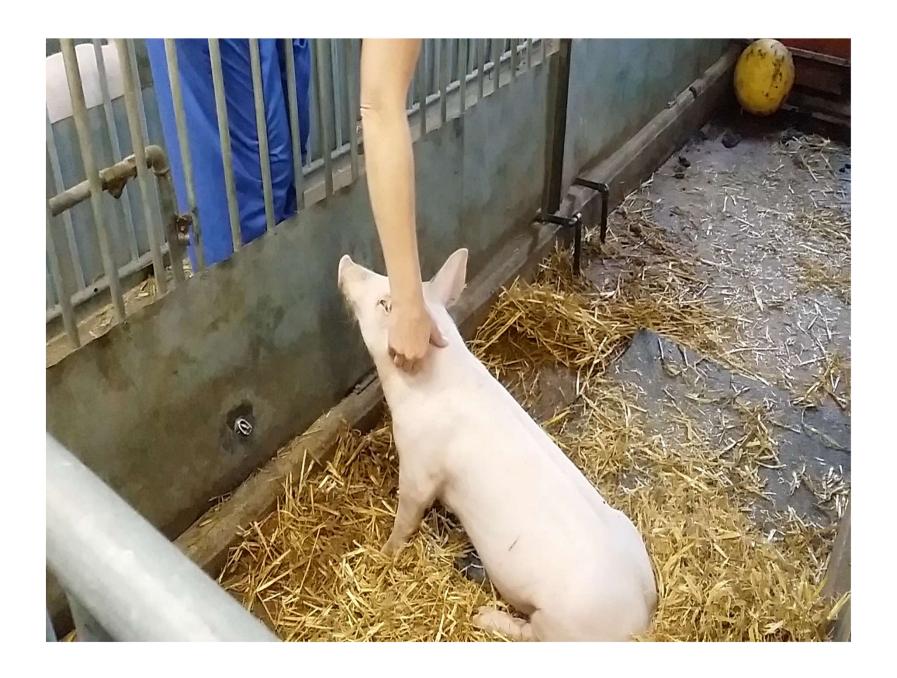


2. Procedures performed in pigs, sheep, cattle and goats

- General anaesthesia/sedation/local anaesthesia (pros and cons)
 - the procedure to be performed, the animal factors, skills and experience of personnel and the availability of equipment
- Severity of pain associated with procedure
 - nil: imaging, clinical examination
 - minimal to mild: CVS catheterization, ocular corneal and dental sx (implants), endoscopy
 - mild to moderate: minimal invasive sx, minimal laparatomy, craniotomy
 - moderate to severe: major laparatomy, orthopaedic and maxilofacial sx, thoracotomy, sternotomy, disease models (pancreatitis, burns, reproductive disease)

3. Training and methods of physical restraint

- Pre-procedural acclimatization
 - → adaptation to novel features of the environment
 - → bidirectional familiarisation with staff
- Low stress animal handling
- Positive reinforcement
- Environmental enrichment









Physical restraint

- species, size, breed, temperament, degree of domestication
- intended procedure
- restraint equipment

Prioritizing Humane Minimum-Stress Methods in Swine Facility & Protocol Design

September 2020 · <u>Journal of Applied Animal Ethics Research</u> 2(2):237-250 DOI:10.1163/25889567-BJA10008

Authors:



Linda M. Panepinto

4. Intra-operative anaesthetic monitoring

- Continuous monitoring by dedicated and skilled personnel
- Intermittent recording (at least every 5 minutes) of all monitored variables
- Direct observation of the animal with subjective assessment of various parameters
- Measurement and objective assessment of various parameters
- Monitoring the following components
 - Cardiovascular system (HR, BP)
 - Respiratory system (RR)
 - Thermoregulatory system (temperature)
 - Central nervous system (depth of AN)
 - Gastro-intestinal system (ruminants)



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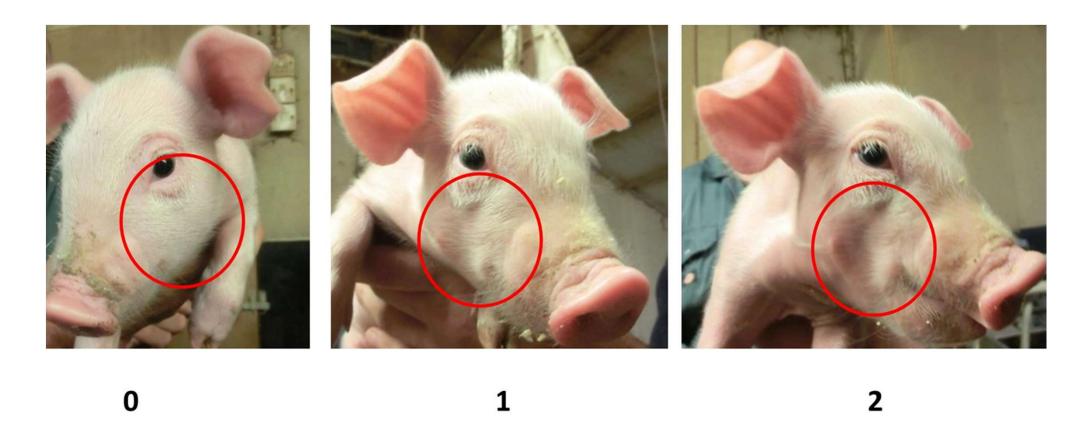
5. Pain assessment

If no assessment plan

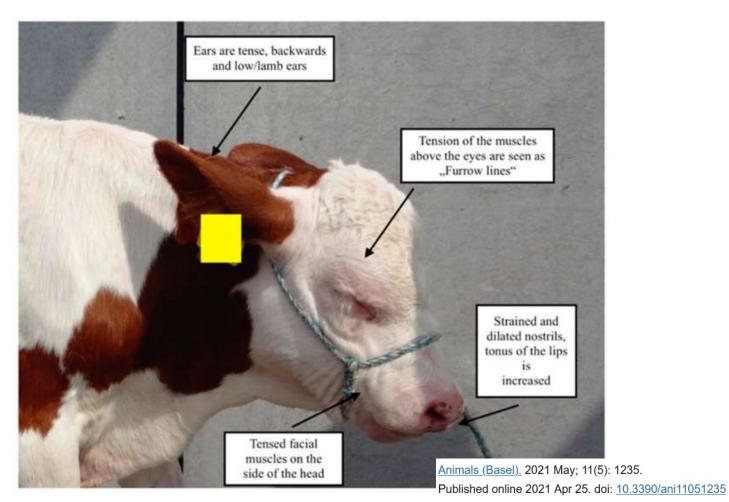
- Analgesia is withheld because pain is not identified ethically unacceptable!
- Analgesia is administered based on the assumption that the experience for the animal will be the same as for a human – inadequate pain management or overdosing!

Pain assessment

- Physiological changes (HR, eye, rectal and skin T, BP, RR, pupillary diameter)
- Neurophysiological changes (EEG, nociceptive withdrawal reflex, nocieptive threshold testing thermal, mechanical, electrical)
- Endocrine changes (cortisol, substance P)
- Behavioural changes (escape or avoidance behaviours, vocalization, attention to a painful site on the body, changes in posture, activity and food and water intake)
 → multimodal pain scales, grimace scales – species-specific!



Lonardi C et al. The 'Grimace Scale': do piglets in pain change their facial expression? Proceedings of the Joint Meeting of the 5th European Symposium of Porcine Health Management and the 50th Anniversary Meeting of the Pig Veterinary Society of Great Britain, Edinburgh, UK, 22nd – 24th May 2013.



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PMCID: PMC8146443

PMID: 33922942

Methods for Pain Assessment in Calves and Their Use for the Evaluation of Pain during Different Procedures—A Review

Theresa Tschoner

6. Recommendations for anaesthesia

Anaesthesia must not be regarded as a set of instructions in which specified drugs are given in a set sequence at pre-determined doses by prescribed routes.

Non-pharmacological considerations complicate the formulation of an anaesthetic technique and may have a greater effect on study outcome than the drugs used.

Factors affecting the AN & A protocol

- 1. Species characteristics (anatomy, ethology, physiology, pharmacology)
- Individual characteristics (age, sex, temeperament, size, breed, health status, concurrent medication, reproductive status, source – lab/farm)
- Procedural factors (duration, invasivness, required precision, repeated procedures, operative site, procedural effects on PK/PD profiles of AN)

Factors affecting the AN & A protocol

4. Human factors (the good surgeon deserves a good anaesthetist, who is indispensable for the bad surgeon)

Yang T. Anaesthetists: heroes behind the scenes. Br J Surg. 2020;107(6):773-4.

- Equipment factors (AN delivery, physiological monitoring, physiological support)
- 6. Study considerations (AN affects study outcome?)

7. Conclusions

Recommendations in form of tables

- 1. level of supervision and anaesthetic risk categories
- 2. guidelines for anaesthesia (AVA, AAGBI, WHO)
- 3. pre-operative procedural, personnel and animal preparation (PREPARE guidelines) → staff competence and expert assistance when required (veterinary anaesthetist, Dipl ECVAA, Dipl ECLAM)
- 4. pre-operative equipment preparation
- 5. pre-operative emergency preparation
- 6. minimum requirements during sedation and general anaesthesia
- 7. planning, early and late recovery from anaesthesia
- 8. neuromuscular blocking agent use

Questions?

