**Removal of Sutures**

*Participant must talk through practicum steps with judge.*

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| **CRITERIA**  | PointsPossible | PointsEarned |
| The student clearly visualized and inspected the incision site. * Student checks the suture line for drainage, redness, and swelling.- 2 pts
* Student assesses the wound for uniform closure of the wound edges - 2 pts
 | 4 |  |
| If there were problems with the incision site, the student informed the veterinarian.If there were no problems, the student removed the sutures. * Student informs the veterinarian of any problems with the incision site - 3 pts
* Student washes hands - 3 pts
* Student puts on gloves – 3 pts
* Student counts sutures – 3 pts
* Student cleans suture area – 3 pts
 | 15 |  |
| The student chose the correct tool to remove the sutures. * Student chooses suture scissors - 3 pts
* Student chooses thumb forceps - 3 pts
* Student places 2x2 gauze close to the incision site – 2 pts
 | 8 |  |
| The student placed the curved blade underneath the suture for removal and removed the suture. * Student holds forceps in non-dominant hand and scissors in dominant hand – 3 pts
* Student uses forceps to grasp suture knot and gently pull up – 3 pts
* Student places curved scissors blade underneath the suture knot – 3 pts
* Student cuts the suture under the knot as close to the skin as possible - 3 pts
* Student uses a continuous motion to pull the suture out of the tissue - 3 pts
* Student places used suture on gauze square – 3 pts
* Student counts removed sutures ensuring that all sutures are accounted for – 3 pts
 | 21 |  |
| The student did not cause unnecessary harm or discomfort to the patient.  | 2 |  |
| **TOTAL POINTS**  | **50** |  |