**Removal of Sutures**

*Participant must talk through practicum steps with judge.*

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| **CRITERIA** | Points  Possible | Points  Earned |
| 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** |  |