

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES
DIVISION OF COMPARATIVE MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

SOP#: 909.6

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TITLE: **Anesthetic Gas Safety Practices**
SCOPE: All Authorized Personnel
RESPONSIBILITY: Training Coordinator, Facility Manager, Technical Staff,
PURPOSE: To Outline Appropriate Use of Anesthetic Gas and Safety Practices

I. PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this procedure is to inform personnel of practices to limit exposures to waste anesthetic gases (WAG) in the workplace.

II. RESPONSIBILITY

1. The Training Coordinator and Facility Managers are responsible for training and supervising personnel regarding the proper implementation of this SOP.
2. It is the responsibility of personnel working with anesthetic gases to be familiar with

Mitigating WAG Exposures

1. Distinction between high waste anesthetic gas (WAG) levels and trace WAGs has been made, with trace levels defined as below concentrations needed for anesthesia or detectable by smell

2. Prior to using an anesthesia machine,
 - a. Visually inspect hoses and connections,
 - b. Connect the waste gas scavenging system,
 - c. Test breathing circuit for leaks and verify it can maintain positive pressure,
 - d. Weigh the charcoal scavenging device (e.g., F/Air[®] or EnviroPure[®] canisters) to ensure weight is below the manufacturer's recommended threshold for replacement. Refer to manufacturer's directions.
3. Scavenging systems must be used in all locations where inhaled agents are used.
4. Personnel using anesthetic agents must be trained in proper anesthetic technique applicable to their usage.

Approved:

Date: