

# AABP POSITION STATEMENT

## AABP SURGERY POSITION STATEMENT



Bovine surgery constitutes the practice of veterinary medicine governed by individual state/provincial veterinary boards and practice acts. As such, these techniques should be performed by, or under the supervision of, a licensed veterinarian. The licensed veterinarian with a valid Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship (VCPR) is responsible for any surgical intervention of cattle to protect animal health and welfare.

Bovine surgery requires an integrated knowledge of anatomy, physiology, pathology, and surgical technique for proper case assessment and surgical planning/procedure. Animal welfare of surgical cases is dependent on case selection, sterility, technique, and pain management before, during, and after the surgical procedure. Veterinarians are uniquely qualified to perform surgery and manage surgical cases based on their extensive professional education and training. Furthermore, surgical procedures commonly involve the use of pharmacologic agents and all therapeutic care should be administered through a valid Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship.

Approved by the AABP Board of Directors February, 2023