

## Helpful Tips

A M\*A\*S\*H clinic is usually in a location that presents challenges that are not seen in a dedicated surgery room.

Looking ahead will enable you to address challenges and prevent mistakes or complications.

Make sure that carriers are securely fastened on the sides; always have cable ties on hand to replace missing bolts so that carriers do not come apart causing animals to get loose.

Have battery operated back up supplies on hand, including headlamps and clippers if possible.

Make sure that instructions are clear to volunteers who are not normally in a surgery setting. For example, if volunteers are being assisting in the prepping process, adding a drop or two of food color to the normally blue scrub solution will make it easier to distinguish the soapy scrub from the plain Chlorhex rinse as both are a similar blue. →

The room for a MASH clinic is likely not as dust-free as a normal surgery room. Following prepping, use a square or two of gauze soaked in scrub solution to protect the prepped area from environmental contamination while the dog or cat awaits surgery.

Have plenty of supplies for marking, including tape and Sharpie markers.

If there is a chance of cages getting wet, have sealable baggies for paperwork that will be sent home.

