

Sustainable development in equine anaesthesia

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First 12-20 minutes:

Deliver 8-12 L/min in order to ensure the minimum recommended inspired oxygen and achieve the desired depth of anaesthesia.

Maintenance phase:

The minimum FGF can equal the horse's oxygen consumption ($10 \times \text{body weight (kg)}^{0.75}/\text{min}$), or approximately 2.2 ml/kg/min.

Example for 500 kg horse:

FGF = 10 L/min for first 12-20 minutes, followed by FGF of approximately 1.1 L/min ($2.2 \times 500 = 1,100$, or $10 \times 500^{0.75} = 1,057$). The authors would typically use a FGF of 2 L/min to account for any minor leaks in the circuit.

Recovery phase:

8-12 L/min in order to facilitate recovery from anaesthesia