

# Stages of Anesthetic Depth in Dogs and Cats

Stage	Description
I	Voluntary conscious, disorientated, can still perceive pain (may be reduced), reflexes present
II	Involuntary excitement, loss of consciousness, reflexes present
III	Unconscious
1. Light	Unconscious, regular respiratory pattern, limb movement absent, reflexes start to diminish
2. Medium “Ideal for surgery”	Unconscious, characteristic reflex responses, most surgical procedures
3. Deep	Deeply anesthetized, reflexes absent
4. Excessive	Weakening autonomic function
IV	Cessation of breathing, circulatory collapse, risk of death