Painful Procedures SOP

Work with your veterinarian to develop a protocol that is appropriate and consistent with AABP guidelines for calves of different ages on your farm.

Review the plan with your veterinarian and the employees responsible for the procedures annually.

Objective: To minimize the pain and stress and discomfort associated with necessary, but painful procedures by using proper, humane handling and appropriate analgesia.

Principles: Painful procedures should be carried out only when necessary and at early age. Cattle should always be given medication &/or treatments to minimize the pain associated with the procedure.

Farm:									
Veterinarian:									
<u>Procedure</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Pain</u> <u>Mitigation*</u>	Responsible Person(s)	Restraint	Method & Required Equipment				
Castration The use of a local and systemic anti- inflammatory is proven to mitigate the pre and post- procedural pain associated with the procedure and should always be used	< 1 week	Anti- Inflammatory							
	1-8 weeks	Anti- Inflammatory							
	> 8 weeks (should be avoided)	Anti- Inflammatory							
	Adult Cattle	Should only be performed by a licensed veterinarian & with proper pain mitigation							

*The use of anti-inflammatories for pain mitigation for castration and branding is considered extra label drug use. However, it is acceptable when done within the context of a VCPR with the veterinarian of record.

Farm:									
Veterinarian:									
Procedure	<u>Age</u>	Pain Mitigation	Responsible Person(s)	Restraint	Method & Required Equipment				
Extra Teat Removal There is no available	< 1 week	Anti- Inflammatory							
data that demonstrates the effectiveness of a local or anti-inflammatory in mitigating the pain of the procedure. Until there	1 to 8 weeks	Anti- Inflammatory							
is evidence to suggest that it does NOT help, it is recommend that it is used.	> 8 weeks (should be avoided)	Anti- Inflammatory							
	Adult Cattle	Should only be performed by a licensed veterinarian & with proper pain mitigation							
Branding (Should only be done to meet state or export requirements) *Branding for Individual animal ID & Face branding is prohibited		Anti- Inflammatory			 Hot branding iron Freeze branding/ Liquid Nitrogen 				