**Pre-operative therapy**

All teat laceration surgeries are considered severely contaminated. It is recommended to have the client apply cold hydrotherapy on the injured teat while waiting for the veterinarian. The

hydrotherapy helps decrease the inflammation and helps clean the teat for surgery. Prior to

surgery, the cow is given a pre-operative dose of antibiotic (procaine penicilline) and a NSAID.

The surgery can be performed in lateral or dorsal recumbency. The author prefers lateral

recumbency because it decreases bloating on animals that have not been fasted. However, dorsal

recumbency decreases the milk contamination improving the view of the surgical field. A clean

area that will allow tying the animal’s leg and that will provide sufficient lighting is selected.

The mammary gland is shaved, cleaned and scrubbed. A local block is performed with 2%

lidocaine HCL. A “V” block or a ring block is performed at the base of the teat. The teat cistern

can be infused with lidocaine to anesthetize the mucosa.

Source: <http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.michvma.org/resource/resmgr/mvc_proceedings_2014/nichols_04.pdf>