Monitoring Anesthetic Depth in Reptile Patients

Light
- Hypoventilation and apnea are common in chelonians even at lighter stages
- Persistence of head withdrawal reflex
- Voluntary response to painful stimuli (like toe or tail pinch)

Surgical
- The palpebral reflex is usually absent
- The corneal reflex persist
- The ocular globe does not rotate in reptiles the third eyelid usually prolapses at a surgical plane of anesthesia
- Tongue retraction often persists in monitor lizards and snakes

Deep
- Loss of all reflexes, including vent and corneal reflexes as well as tongue retraction in snakes and varanids