

SURGICAL INFORMATION PACKET

Dear Client,

Your pet has been scheduled for an upcoming surgery in the near future. In our attempt to assist clients we have put together this packet to make surgery day as easy and stress free as possible.

In addition to this letter, you will find that the following information has been enclosed:

1. Requirements before surgery
2. Pre-Op blood work
3. Anesthetic procedures and risks
4. Pain management
5. Potential Surgical Complications
6. Surgery Dismissal Procedures

Please read carefully all the enclosed information. If you have any questions, please feel free to call us. On your pet's surgery day, we require you to review and sign a Surgery check in Form which allows you to choose optional services. We require a phone number where you can be reached surgery day. Failure to be reached on the day of the procedure may result in postponement of the surgery.

Requirements Before Surgery

- Withhold all food, water, and treats after 12:00am the night before surgery.
- If you are currently administering any medications, vitamins and/or injections, withhold the morning doses unless otherwise instructed by the doctor.
- Please make arrangements for your pet to be dropped off on the morning of scheduled surgery between 7:30am-8:00am, unless other arrangements have been made in advance. At the time of drop off, our team will be happy to answer any questions/concerns and collect the Surgery Check in Form required for surgery.

Pre-Op Blood Work

Our greatest concern is the well-being of your pet. Before putting your pet under anesthesia, we routinely perform a physical examination. We also recommend and sometimes require that a Pre-op blood profile be performed on all pets undergoing anesthesia to maximize patient safety.

The Pre-op blood profile helps alert our surgeon to the presence of dehydration, anemia, infection, diabetes and/or kidney or liver disease that could complicate the procedure. These conditions may not be detected without a pre-op profile thus not allowing for the most appropriate and safest anesthetic regime to be administered. These tests are similar to those our own physician would run if you were to undergo anesthesia. In addition, these tests may be useful if your pet's health changes to develop faster, more accurate diagnosis and treatments.

The authorization form you will sign on your pet's surgery date will offer pre-op blood work.

The quantitative blood count and pre-op blood profile include:

- CBC: PCV (Anemia), White Blood Cell Count (Infection) and Red Blood Cell Count (Anemia/Bleeding Disorders), Platelet Count (Clotting Disorder)
- Profile: BUN and Creatinine (Kidney), ALKP and ALT (Liver), Glucose (Sugar), Total Protein (Dehydration), and Electrolytes (Imbalance).

The owner elects to decline the recommended pre-op blood work but requests that we proceed with the procedure by not marking or by checking the no box to the pre-op blood work question on the Surgery Check in Form.

Our feline owners will see a Leuk/FIV test option. Feline Leukemia and Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (Feline Aids) are viruses for which no cure exists. If your cat goes outside, we recommend administering the Feline Leukemia vaccine. Please ask questions if you would like to learn more about Feline Leukemia and Feline Aids.

We realize surgery and anesthesia are scary for both the owner and patient and we attempt to make surgery day as safe and comfortable for all involved. The Physical examination and blood work done prior to any surgical procedure allows us to best minimize anesthetic and surgical risks and maximize patient safety.

Anesthetic Procedures and Risks

We use a combination of anesthetic medications/injectable and/or inhalant anesthetics to achieve optimum levels of anesthesia that are safe for your pet.

For short procedures, an injectable anesthetic is given alone that produces a good plane of surgical anesthesia with a quick recovery.

For procedures that require minimum sedation, an injectable anesthetic is given that produces a good plane of sedation with quick recovery. Anesthesia is maintained with a gas anesthetic, Sevoflurane, which is very safe and is not metabolized by the body. This allows us to have more control over anesthetic depth and it is less irritation to the airways. Another advantage to Sevoflurane is a quick induction using a mask versus using injectable anesthetics that require metabolism from the body.

Even with careful use of anesthetics, seizures and cardiac arrest can rarely occur.

Pain Management

Our clinic strongly believes in compassionate, quality, medical care for our patients. As a result we offer pain medication options on the Surgery Check in Form.

Post-op pain medication that controls pain and inflammation will be given as an injection at the time of surgery that will last 24 hours. Medication may also be sent home upon dismissal in the form of pills/tablets to be given on a regular basis for a few days post-surgery.

Potential Surgical Complications

1. Canine and Feline Spay: bleeding, infection, weight gain, suture reaction.
2. Canine and Feline Neuter: bleeding, infection, swelling, suture reaction(canine only)
3. Feline Declaw: bleeding, infection, limping/lameness, regrowth of nail
4. Tumor/Lump Removal: bleeding, infection, swelling and drainage, suture reaction.

If any of these complications are seen please contact us. We cannot help you if we don't know there is a problem.

It is important for you to understand that there is always a risk of anesthetic and surgical complications anytime these procedures are performed. We strive to take the highest quality care of your pet and take all the added precautions you allow to avoid potential problems. Thank you for entrusting your pet to us.

Surgery Dismissal Instructions

You are welcome to check up on your pet's status, however, we request that you allow plenty of time for your pet's procedure to be done. At this time, we will be able to give you an idea when your pet may be discharged. When you arrive to take your pet home, the receptionist will bill you out and go over all dismissal orders verbally and give you a written copy. If you do not understand any instructions, please do not hesitate to ask them to go over them one more time.

We hope surgery day will be a pleasant experience. Remember, our team knows surgery can be an anxious time and we are always available to answer any and all questions concerning the upcoming procedure.

We look forward to serving you and your pet on the upcoming surgery day and years to come.