

## 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. Pre-anesthetic blood testing information form (a copy is provided the day of surgery to sign).
2. Surgical information sheet.

Please read carefully all the enclosed information. If you have any questions, please feel free to call us. On your pets' surgery day, we require you to review and sign an estimate, which allows you to choose optional services. This form is not included in the packet and will be provided to you at our office prior to admitting your pet for 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.

The night before your pet's surgery...

- Withhold all food and treats after 8PM.
- Water may be left down after this time period.
- 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 7:30-8:00, unless other arrangements have been made in advance. At time of drop off, our team will be happy to answer any questions/concerns.

A veterinary technician or receptionist will escort your pets to the surgical prepping area to wait for their surgery. If you have elected any of the recommended blood tests, our technician will collect all blood samples and tests prior to surgery. If any questions arise, the doctor may contact you at the number on the estimate you will complete the morning of surgery.

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 the veterinary technician will go over all discharge 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.

## PRE-ANESTHETIC BLOODWORK



The health of your pet is important when undergoing anesthesia for any surgical procedure. Anesthetics used during your pet's operation are safe, and a healthy pet undertakes minimal risk during surgery. However, it is important to remember that all anesthetic and surgical procedures carry some degree of risk.

To help determine that your pet is healthy enough to go through surgery safely, prior to anesthesia, our staff will review the history of your pet's health, and can run blood tests.

These tests can help us determine the internal health of your pet prior to surgery. Blood work will also evaluate your pet's ability to metabolize properly the drugs and anesthetics used before, during and post-surgery. Another advantage to blood testing is early detection of disease (e.g. kidney, liver, diabetes, anemia, dehydration) prior to surgery. All of these conditions contribute to complications in anesthesia and surgery. Having the blood test done can reduce the likelihood of medical complications during and post-surgery, and can lead to early treatment of disease and a longer and healthier life for your pet.

Pre-surgical blood testing is fast, easy and affordable assurance for your pet's health and your peace of mind. Testing on healthy dogs and cats can also provide baseline values that can be important for comparison against future illness, injury, medication effects and post-operative complications. Although extremely comprehensive and valuable, it is important to know that pre-surgical blood testing cannot identify every type of underlying disease or bleeding disorder.

I understand that there is a possibility of further kidney and/or liver damage if I decline pre-anesthetic blood work.

\_\_\_\_\_ I **accept** pre-anesthetic blood work as an added measure of safety today.

\_\_\_\_\_ I **decline** pre-anesthetic blood work today. I understand that by declining this test, the veterinarian has no way to assess the internal health of my pet and is unable to see any underlying infections or diseases.

I have read and agree to the above terms:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

# Surgical Information Form

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY.

## **Anesthetic Procedures & Risks**

We use a combination of pre-anesthetic /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 most procedures**, your pet is anesthetized and then intubated (insertion of a tube into the trachea or wind pipe). This will ensure that your pet is able to receive oxygen at all times and prevents aspiration of any fluids into the lungs.

**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 irritating to the airways. Another advantage to Sevoflurane is a quick induction using a mask versus using injectable anesthetics that require metabolism from the body.

**Monitoring & Pain Management-** monitoring of patients during anesthesia is done in two ways. First, a veterinary technician is with your pet continuously from beginning of anesthesia to recovery. Second, we have a computerized monitor that records heart rate, pulse rate, oxygen levels, respiration, ECG, for and rectal temperature.

Our clinic strongly believes in compassionate, quality, medical care for our patients. As a result, all surgery patients will receive pain management before, during and after surgery. Additionally, pain medication may be prescribed to go home. Additional info will be given at discharge. We hope this program will reduce any discomfort experienced and aid in a quicker recovery.

## **Intravenous Catheterization & Fluids**

We highly recommend the placement of an IV catheter and use of IV fluids during all anesthetic procedures. This allows us to have quick, available access to the circulatory system (blood) in case of an unforeseen emergency. The fluids help provide support to the circulatory system and prevent dehydration, as well as aid in a quicker recovery from anesthesia.

## **Potential Surgical Complications**

### **1. Canine and Feline Spay**

1. Bleeding
2. Infection
3. Recurrent Heat
4. Urinary Incontinence
5. Weight Gain
6. Suture Reactions

### **2. Canine and Feline Neuter**

1. Bleeding
2. Infection
3. Testicular Swelling
4. Suture Reaction (Canine Only)

### **3. Feline Declaw**

1. Bleeding
2. Infection
3. Limping/Lameness
4. Regrowth of Nail

### **4. Tumor/Lump Removal**

1. Bleeding
2. Infection
3. Swelling and Drainage
4. Suture Reaction

**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.**