

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 Work Information Form (Bring in Day of Surgery)**
2. **Surgical Information Sheet (Bring in Day of Surgery)**

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 **Surgical and Medical Permission Form**, which allows you to choose optional services.

We require a phone number(s) 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 6:00pm**
- **Withhold/pick up all water after midnight**
- **Give nothing orally the morning of 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 during the **first ½ hour** we are open on the morning of the scheduled surgery, unless other arrangements have been made in advance. For example, new patients are required to have a pre-surgical exam the morning of the procedure. At the time of drop off, our team will be happy to answer any questions/concerns and go over all necessary paperwork. If an estimate of charges has not been provided, please ask for one before leaving your pet.

Our veterinary staff will escort your pet to the surgical prepping area to wait for their surgery. If your pet has not had **Pre-Anesthetic Blood work** completed, our veterinary 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 Permission Form.

You are welcome to call 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 question concerning the upcoming procedure.

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

SURGICAL INFORMATION FORM

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Anesthetic Procedures & Risks

We use a combination of pre-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 quicker recovery.

For most procedures, your pet is anesthetized and then intubated (insertion of a tube into the airway). This will ensure that your pet is able to receive oxygen at all times and prevents aspiration of any fluids into the lungs.

For longer procedures, anesthesia is maintained with a gas anesthetic, Isoflurane, which is very safe and is not metabolized by the body. This allows us to have more control over anesthetic depth.

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 monitor that records heart rate, oxygen levels, respiration rate and ECG. We also use a warm air circulation blanket to support body 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 for home. Additional information will be given at discharge. We hope this program will reduce any discomfort experienced and aid in a quicker recovery.

Intravenous Catheterization & Fluids

For some longer procedures and for pets with known health issues, 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.

CLIENT INITIALS _____

PRE-ANESTHETIC BLOOD TESTING INFORMATION

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Our greatest concern is the well being of your pet. Before putting your pet under anesthesia, we require that a **Pre-Anesthetic Blood Profile** be performed on all pets undergoing synesthesia to maximize patient safety. If your pet has had bloodwork done in the previous 6 months, ask our staff if this meets the requirements for Pre-Anesthetic blood work. If testing was done elsewhere, please bring a copy for the doctor to review.

The **Pre-Anesthetic 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-anesthetic profile thus not allowing for the most appropriate and safest anesthetic regime to be administered. These tests are similar to those your 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 diagnoses and treatments. *State of the art equipment enables us to perform the pre-anesthetic blood profile at our hospital and we are committed to making this technology available to our patients.

The **Surgical and Medical Permission Form** you will sign on your pet's surgery date will list the pre-anesthetic blood work recommended by our staff:

1. The **Pre-Anesthetic Profile** includes:
 - **Profile:** BUN and Creatinine (Kidney), ALKP and ALT (Liver), Glucose (Sugar), Total Protein (Dehydration), and PCV (Anemia)
2. For our Patients 8 years of age or older, we will do a **Senior Blood Profile**, which includes the above tests as well as:
 - **CBC:** White Blood Cell Count (Infection), and Red Blood Cell Count (Anemia/Bleeding Disorder), Platelet Count (Clotting Disorder), Urine and also (for Feline Patients 8 and older) a Thyroid test

If an owner elects to decline the recommended pre-anesthetic blood work at this time but requests that we proceed with the procedure, a separate form will need to be signed stating that the owner understands the risks involved. Our surgeon reserves the right to not proceed with anesthesia without the proper tests.

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 bloodwork done prior to any surgical procedure allows us to best minimize anesthetic and surgical risks and maximize patient safety.

If you have any questions or hesitations about the scheduled procedure, please do not hesitate to call us to discuss any aspect of the upcoming procedure.

CLIENT INITIALS_____