

SURGICAL INFORMATION PACKET

Dear Client,

Your pet has been scheduled for an upcoming surgery in the near future. We have put together this packet to make surgery day as easy and stress-free as possible for you and your family. In addition to this letter, you will find that the following information has been enclosed:

1. Pre-Anesthetic Blood Testing Information
2. Surgical Information

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 **an Anesthesia/Surgery Consent Form** and an **Authorization/Estimate Form**.

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 7:00pm.**
- **Water may be left down after this time period, please take away water in the a.m.**
- **If you are currently administering any medications, vitamins and/or injections, withhold the morning doses unless otherwise instructed by the doctor.**

Please make arrangements to drop your pet off on the morning of scheduled surgery between 7-8 a.m. Please allow a minimum of 15 minutes for your pet's surgery nurse to review the necessary consent forms and the patient's medical history with you as well as answer and/or alleviate any questions or concerns you may have.

If any questions arise, the doctor or your pet's nurse may contact you at the number on the consent form which will be filled out in while at our clinic.

You are welcome to check on your pet's status, however, we request that you allow plenty of time for your pet's procedure to be done. We will call you at the number you leave on the consent form after your pet's procedure has been completed. At this time, we will schedule a discharge appointment for your pet.

When you arrive for your discharge appointment the veterinary nurse will go over all discharge orders verbally and give you a written copy to take home. If you do not understand any instructions, please do not hesitate to ask them to go over them again. After receiving your discharge instructions the client relations specialist will print your invoice and collect payment. Please do not request to pay your invoice prior to meeting with your pet's nurse.

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. Please feel free to give us a call at (901)382-0330 should you have any additional questions before or after your pet's surgical procedure.

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 routinely perform a pre-anesthetic physical examination.

We also highly recommend and require that a Pre-**Anesthetic Blood Profile** be performed on all pets' undergoing anesthesia to maximize patient safety.

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 Anesthesia/Surgery Consent Form you will sign on your pet's surgery date will offer pre-anesthetic blood work.

1. **The Pre-Anesthetic Profile** which includes:

- **Profile:** BUN and Creatinine (Kidney), ALKP and ALT (Liver), Glucose (Sugar), Total Protein (Dehydration), and Electrolytes (Imbalance).

You will notice other tests available on the consent form that are not included above. We have selected tests that give the doctors a suitable overview of healthy patients. However, if the patients are in their senior years (above 8 years old), are not current on their heartworm prevention (canine), or are sick, the FULL profile will be done the day of the procedure.

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.

If you have any questions or concerns about the scheduled procedure please do not hesitate to call us at (901) 382-0330.

SURGICAL INFORMATION FORM

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY.

Anesthetic Procedures and 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 - We may use an injectable anesthetic that when given alone 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. An injectable anesthetic is given that produces a good plane of sedation with quick recovery. 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 and it is less irritating to the airways.

Monitoring & Pain Management - Monitoring of patients during anesthesia is done in two ways. First, a veterinary nurse 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, core and rectal temperature.

Our hospital 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. It is our intent that our pain management program will reduce any discomfort experienced and aid in a quicker recovery.

Intravenous Catheterization & Fluids - We place an I.V. Catheter and administer I.V. 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

It is important for you to understand that there is always a risk of anesthetic and surgical complications anytime a procedure is 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.