

Surgical Information Form Please Read Carefully

General Anesthetic Procedures & Risks

We use a combination of pre-anesthetic medications (injectable drugs) and inhalant anesthetics to achieve optimum levels of anesthesia that are safe for your pet.

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

Occasionally we can use an injectable anesthetic on its own that produces an adequate plane of anesthesia for minor surgical procedures and has a quicker recovery time. The doctor will determine if we can try this method for your pet's procedure.

Pre-anesthetic Blood Panel

Our pre-anesthetic blood panel helps alert the doctor to the presence of dehydration, anemia, infection, diabetes, and/or kidney or liver disease. Many of these conditions can not be detected without a blood panel. Even if the doctor feels we can proceed with the procedure, we may change the anesthetic protocol based on this panel's results. **If there are any concerns, the doctor will call you to discuss treatments and options prior to performing surgery.** Our pre-anesthetic blood panel tests for kidney function (BUN and creatinine), liver function (ALKP and ALT), glucose levels, total protein (checks for dehydration), and electrolytes.

Monitoring and Pain Management

Monitoring of patients during anesthesia is done in two ways. First, a veterinary technician is with your pet from the beginning of anesthesia to recovery- checking vital signs, assessing anesthetic depth, and recording necessary information about the surgery. Second, we have computerized monitoring equipment which takes your pet's heart rate, pulse rate, oxygen levels, respiration, blood pressure, and 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 be given at home. Additional information will be given at discharge. We hope these steps will reduce any discomfort experienced and aid in a quicker recovery.

Intravenous Catheterization and Fluids

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

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