

PRE-SURGERY INSTRUCTIONS

The following notes are to help you prepare for the day of your pet's surgery.

On the evening before the surgery

Administer any medication as normal – unless the vet has specified not to. Feed your pet as normal up until 9pm at night, then remove the food. **DO NOT GIVE** any food, milk or treats after this time. Please **DO NOT REMOVE WATER** – water should be available until you bring your pet to the clinic. You may exercise your pet as normal.

On the morning of the surgery

Remove water first thing in the morning.

Give medication as normal– unless the vet has specified not to. Please bring your pet into the clinic at the specific time slot you have been appointed. Allow time to fill out some paperwork on admission– someone over 18 needs to drop the patient off to fill out and sign this paperwork. Please bring dogs with a suitable collar/harness and lead, and cats in a secure safe carrier cage. We can supply these if you are unable to. On admission you may be given some options relating to your pet's procedure. As animals get older (over 8 years of age) the anaesthetic risk increases, hence your vet may recommend you take some of these options. You may elect to use any of the options for your pet. Intravenous fluids (cost \$70) helps to maintain your pet's blood pressure during surgery, and makes the recovery smoother and quicker. Basic blood work (cost \$106) can be run to check your pet's organ function prior to surgery. All animals (except cats under 6 months) are given a pain relief injection. These animals may go home with an additional 3 days of pain relief tablets, this option costs: \$25 for cats, \$25 for dogs under 15kg, \$30 for dogs 15<30kg, \$5 for dogs 30<40kg and \$45 for dogs over 40kg. As each of these alternatives are optional their cost will be in addition to the price of your pet's procedure. For more details on these options please ask for the brochure on your pet's anaesthetic options or speak to a staff member.

Once your animal is at the hospital it will be checked by a vet prior to its anaesthetic. The vet will assess the patient and if any serious problems are identified you will be called. If the patient is healthy it will be sedated. When the patient is due for its surgery it will be anaesthetised and prepared for the procedure. There is a risk with any anaesthetic, however we minimize this risk by tailoring each anaesthetic to the individual, and monitoring closely during surgery and recovery.

Collecting your pet

Routine surgery cases can usually be collected between 4 and 5:30pm on the day of surgery. The nurses will call you in the early afternoon to inform you of your pet's recovery, and arrange a time for you to pick your pet up. Occasionally a patient may need to stay overnight if they are not awake enough to go home. Please allow time for a nurse or vet to conduct a discharge appointment to go through what was done while the patient was in hospital and what you need to do at home to care for your pet.

We endeavour to give your pet the best possible treatment. If you are worried or have any further enquiries please don't hesitate to call, one of our staff will be more than happy to assist you – 63618388.

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