

## Options available on the day of surgery

- ◆ Pre-anaesthetic bloods (\$145)
- ◆ Intravenous fluids (\$80)
- ◆ Dental scale and polish whilst already under anaesthesia (\$130)

*If you have extra requests, please discuss when making the booking or at your admission appointment.*



### BEFORE YOUR PETS ANAESTHETIC, REMEMBER TO:

- Fast your pet from 9pm the night before surgery— but ensure they still have access to water during that time.
- Bring your dog into the clinic on a lead— cats and pocket pets must be in a carrier.
- Give prescribed medication as usual; unless your vet has advised otherwise. This includes heart and behavioral medications
- Discuss any queries you may have about your pet's procedure with the admitting nurse or vet at time of admission.
- Have a read of options attached to this brochure and discuss with staff at time of admission.
- Advise of any additional procedures you would like done while your pet is in our care e.g. nail trim, grooming, dentistry, vaccinations, microchipping
- Prepare a quiet, warm, confined environment for your pet to come home to.
- Allow time the day of admission for the admitting nurse to discuss surgery and options with you—mornings can be busy and you may be asked to wait.
- NOTE: rabbits, guinea pigs and rodents DO NOT need to be fasted. Please bring them a packed lunch.



## Pre-surgery client information

*Improving  
comfort and recovery for  
your pet.*



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On the day of surgery you will be given some options relating to your pet's care for the day. Any anaesthesia carries risks, and this risk increases with age and disease. We minimise the risk with a thorough clinical examination of your pet prior to the anaesthetic, and tailoring the anaesthetic to each individual. During the procedure and recovery your pet is closely monitored by our nursing staff.

### **Intravenous fluids**

Your pet can be placed on intravenous fluids for the anaesthesia and recovery periods. This helps to maintain their blood pressure during surgery and recovery, ensuring enough blood and oxygen gets to all the important organs. This is particularly important for older, overweight or sick patients, and any patient undergoing a long procedure. Intravenous fluids also make the recovery after the anaesthetic smoother and quicker.

Many short simple procedures have been done for a long time without intravenous fluids, however the benefits are now being recognised even for simple procedures like simple stitch-ups.

At Orange Veterinary Hospital, we strongly recommend any animal over 8 years of age having an anaesthetic is placed on intravenous fluids. For younger animals undergoing routine surgery this alternative is optional. The cost for this option is \$79.

### **Pre-anaesthesia blood work**

Blood work performed before an anaesthetic provides information on how a patient's organs are functioning and their suitability for an anaesthetic. With this information the vet will determine if the patient is well enough for the anaesthetic, and if the type or dose of the drugs used needs to be adjusted. This option costs \$130.

The pre-anaesthetic profile is a set of bloods run at the clinic. There are several components to this blood work:

- ◆ The PCV is checked to assess the number of red blood cells. Anaemia and dehydration are two conditions that may be detected with this test.
- ◆ Three kidney enzymes are checked– SDMA, Urea and Creatinine. Together they give an indication of how well the kidneys are functioning. The kidneys are important for processing and removing drugs from the body.
- ◆ Two liver enzymes are checked– ALT and ALP. Together they give an indication of how well the liver is functioning. The liver is important for processing and removing anaesthesia medications from the body.
- ◆ Glucose is checked– problems such as diabetes and low glucose may be identified.
- ◆ The total protein concentration of blood is determined. Abnormalities can indicate that a patient is dehydrated, a disease may be causing the patient to lose protein, or protein is not being produced normally.

The blood work for most young patients comes back normal. This provides a good baseline if your pet is unwell in the future. As animals get older we are more likely to find abnormalities. In some patients we may need to run more extensive blood and urine tests, or even ultrasound.

### **Collecting your pet**

Your pet's nurse will give you a call after surgery with an update on their recovery and will also advise of an appropriate time to come for patient discharge.

### **Additional medications**

Animals undergoing surgery will be given an injection of pain relief on the day of surgery. Your pet may go home with additional medications too. The medications make your pet more comfortable during the initial recovery period. Medications work to reduce swelling, heat, redness and pain, and in turn promote good healing.

There is a small risk of animals reacting to the medication. We ask owners to monitor for vomiting, diarrhoea, black faeces, and excessive drinking. If any of these signs are noticed after the first 5 days at home we request that you stop the medication and call the clinic. You can reduce the chance of your animal reacting to the medication by giving the tablets with food.

If you are concerned, please call for advice or an appointment.

*If you have any questions about these options please speak to one of our staff members.*

