

Surgery and Anesthetic Information Sheet

Please Read Carefully

Anesthetic Procedures & Risks

We use a combination of pre-anesthetic medications and 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 quick recovery.

For most procedures, your pet is anesthetized with an injectable medication and then intubated (a breathing tube is inserted into the trachea or windpipe). This will ensure that your pet is able to receive oxygen at all times and prevents aspiration of any fluids into the lungs. Your pet will also receive an inhalant anesthetic medication along with their oxygen, to maintain anesthesia during longer procedures.

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 computerized monitor that records heart rate, oxygen levels, ECG, and temperature during anesthesia.

Our clinic strongly believes in compassionate, quality medical care for our patients. As a result, all surgery patients will receive pain medication while hospitalized with us. Additionally, your doctor may prescribe pain medication to take home. Additional information will be given at discharge. Appropriate pain management reduces discomfort associated with surgical procedures and aids in a quicker recovery.

Intravenous Catheterization & Fluids

In some circumstances, your doctor may recommend placing an IV catheter and keeping your pet on fluids during their surgery. IV fluid support makes anesthesia safer for pets that may be older, ill, or have other medical issues. Our doctors recommend them most commonly during more involved dental and orthopedic procedures, as well as for emergency surgeries.

Common Surgeries and Potential Complications

Ovariohysterectomy or Spay- bleeding, infection, urinary incontinence, weight gain, suture reaction.

Castration or Neuter- bleeding, infection, scrotal swelling, suture reaction.

Onchyectomy or Declaw- bleeding, infection, limping/lameness, behavioral changes.

Tumor or Lump Removal- bleeding, infection, swelling and/or drainage, suture reaction.

It is important for you to understand that there is always a risk of anesthetic and surgical complications any time these procedures are performed. We strive to take the highest quality care of your pet and take added precautions to avoid potential problems. Thank you for entrusting your pet to us.