

## SURGICAL INFORMATION PACKET

Dear Client,

Your pet has been scheduled for an upcoming surgery. In our attempt to assist clients, we have put together this packet to make surgery day as easy and stress-free as possible. In addition to this letter, you will find that the following information has been enclosed: 1. Pre-Anesthetic Blood Testing Information Form and 2. Surgical Information Form. Please read all the enclosed information carefully. If you have any questions, please feel free to call us. On your pet's surgery day, we require you to review and sign a Surgical Consent Form, as well as an Estimate for Services. These forms are not included in this packet and will be provided to you at our office prior to admitting your pet for services.

**We require a phone number(s) where you can be reached at all times the day of surgery. 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 8:00pm.**
- Your pet should have access to water up until the time they come to our office
- If your furry friend is a dog, please walk them as you normally would the morning of the surgery, and allow them to urinate and defecate prior to coming to our office.
- If you are currently administering any medications, vitamins and/or injections to your pet, please call our office for instructions on whether or not to administer medications the morning of the surgery.
- Please bring your pet to our office between 8:00am and 8:30am the morning of the surgery.

At the time of drop off, our team will be happy to answer any questions or concerns you have; or feel free to call our office prior to the day of surgery.

After you have reviewed and signed the Surgical Consent Form and Estimate, the veterinary technician will escort your pet to the surgical prep area to collect a blood sample for pre-anesthetic blood testing, if this has not been completed already. Your pet will also be given a physical exam by the doctor. If any questions or concerns arise after completing the physical exam and reviewing the blood test results, the doctor may contact you at the number you included on the Surgical Consent Form. You are welcome to check up on your pet's status at any time. Once your pet is in recovery, we will call with an update, and to confirm the time your pet can be discharged to go home. When you arrive to take your pet home the veterinarian will go over all discharge orders verbally and give you a written copy. If you do not understand any instructions, please do not hesitate to ask for clarification. The receptionist will then go over your invoice and process your payment.

We hope surgery day will be a pleasant experience. Remember, our team realizes surgery can be an anxious time and we are always available to answer any and all questions concerning the upcoming procedure. We look forward to serving you and your pet on the upcoming surgery day, and for years to come.

## **PRE-ANESTHETIC BLOOD TESTING INFORMATION FORM**

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

We realize surgery and anesthesia are scary for both the owner and patient. Our greatest concern is the well-being of your pet, and we attempt to make surgery day as safe and comfortable as possible for all involved. Before putting your pet under anesthesia, the doctor will perform a full physical examination, and a Pre-Anesthetic Blood Profile, to maximize patient safety. The Pre-Anesthetic Blood Profile helps alert the veterinarian to the presence of dehydration, anemia, infection, diabetes, kidney, and/or liver disease that could complicate the procedure. These conditions may not be detected without a pre-anesthetic profile thus not allowing for the safest, and most appropriate 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 serve as a baseline to help compare future test results and monitor for changes in your pet's health. 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.

## **SURGICAL INFORMATION FORM**

### **Anesthetic Procedures & Risks:**

We use a combination of anesthetic medications, which include injectable and 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 and then intubated (insertion of a tube into the trachea/windpipe) to deliver oxygen and inhalant anesthesia, and to prevent aspiration of fluid into the lungs. Anesthesia is maintained with a gas anesthetic called Sevoflurane.

### **Monitoring and Pain Management:**

Monitoring of patients during anesthesia is done in two ways. First, a veterinary technician is with your pet continuously from the beginning of anesthesia through recovery. The veterinary technician monitors body temperature, pulse quality, mucous membrane color, and capillary refill times. Second, we have a computerized monitor that measures heart rate, oxygen levels, respiratory rate, ECG, and blood pressure.

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 about any dispensed medications will be given at discharge.

## **Intravenous Catheterization & Fluids:**

For procedures requiring intubation and inhalant anesthesia we place an intravenous (IV) catheter and administer IV fluids during the surgical procedure. This allows us to have quick 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 faster recovery from anesthesia.

## **Potential Surgical Complications:**

### 1. Canine and Feline Spay:

- Bleeding
- Infection
- Recurrent Heat
- Urinary incontinence
- weight gain
- suture reaction
- seroma formation
- wound dehiscence

### 2. Canine and Feline Castration:

- Bleeding
- Infection
- Scrotal swelling
- seroma formation
- suture reaction (canine only)
- wound dehiscence

### 3. Feline Declaw:

- bleeding
- infection
- limping/lameness
- suture reaction
- regrowth of nail
- wound dehiscence

### 4. Tumor/Lump Removal:

- bleeding
- infection
- seroma formation
- suture reaction
- wound dehiscence

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