

FOR YOUR UPCOMING PROCEDURE

Surgical Information Packet

Dear Client,

Your pet has been scheduled for an upcoming surgery in the near future. 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 (initial and bring in on the day of surgery)
- 2 Surgical Information Form (initial and bring in on the day of surgery)

Please read all of 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 an Authorization/Estimate Form, which allows you to choose optional services. This form is not included in the packet and will be provided to you at our office prior to admitting your pet for services.

The night before your pet's surgery

- Withhold all food and treats after 9:00 pm.
- Water may be left down after this time.
- If you are currently administering any medicines, vitamins and/or injections, withhold the morning doses unless otherwise instructed by the doctor.

Please make arrangements for your pet to be dropped off on the morning of the scheduled surgery, unless other arrangements have been made in advance. For example, new clients are required to have a pre-surgical visit the morning of the procedure and may not have an appointment until later. At the time of drop off, our team will be happy to answer any questions or concerns and collect the enclosed, completed information forms.

Our veterinary nurse will escort your pet to the surgical prepping area to wait for their surgery. If you have elected any of the recommended blood tests, our nurse will collect all blood samples and run the tests prior to surgery. If any questions arise, the doctor may contact you at the number on the Authorization Form you will complete the morning of surgery.

You are welcome to check on your pet's status; however, we request that you allow plenty of time for your pet's procedure to be completed. At that point we will be able to give you an idea of when your pet may be discharged. When you arrive to take your pet home, the receptionist will bill you out and the veterinary nurse will go over all discharge orders verbally and give you a written copy. If you do not understand any instruction, please do not hesitate to ask them to go over it one more time.

We hope surgery day will be a pleasant experience. Our team knows 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.

We require a phone number where you can be reached on surgery day. Failure to be reached on the day of the procedure may result in postponement of the surgery.

FORM 1 — INITIAL AND BRING WITH YOU

Pre-Anesthetic Blood Testing Information Form

Pet's name

Owner's name

Date

Please read carefully.

Our greatest concern is the well-being of your pet. Before putting your pet under anesthesia, we routinely perform a full physical examination. We also highly recommend, and sometimes require, that a Pre-Anesthetic Blood Profile be performed on all pets undergoing anesthesia in order to maximise patient safety.

The Pre-Anesthetic Blood Profile helps alert our surgeon to the presence of dehydration, anemia, infection, diabetes and/or kidney or liver disease that could complicate the procedure. These conditions may not be detected without a pre-anesthetic profile, which would prevent the most appropriate and safest anesthetic regime from being administered. These tests are similar to those your own physician would run if you were to undergo anesthesia. In addition, these tests may be useful if your pet's health changes, allowing faster and more accurate diagnosis and treatment.

The Authorization Form you will sign at our office on your pet's surgery date will offer pre-anesthetic blood work.

1. The Quantitative Blood Count (QBC) and Pre-Anesthetic Profile, which includes:

- **CBC:** PCV (anemia), white blood cell count (infection), red blood cell count (anemia / bleeding disorder) and platelet count (clotting disorder).
- **Profile:** BUN and creatinine (kidney), ALKP and ALT (liver), glucose (sugar), total protein (dehydration) and electrolytes (imbalance).

2. Owner elects to decline the recommended pre-anesthetic blood tests at this time, but requests that we proceed with the procedure. This is indicated by not checking the optional procedures.

You will notice other tests available that are not included in the above choices. We have selected tests that give the doctors a suitable overview of healthy patients. However, if patients are in their senior years (above seven years old) or are unwell, the full senior profile can be run on the day of the procedure at the owner's request. It has been included in the high amount of the estimate.

For feline patients, our feline owners will see an option for a FeLV/FIV test. We highly recommend this test be performed on all feline patients at least once in their lives, because Feline Leukemia and Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (Feline AIDS) are viruses for which no cure exists. If your cat goes outside, we recommend administering the Feline Leukemia vaccine as well. Please ask questions if you would like to learn more.

We realise surgery and anesthesia are frightening for both owner and patient, and we work to make surgery day as safe and comfortable as possible for everyone involved. The physical examination and blood work carried out before any surgical procedure allow us to minimise anesthetic and surgical risk and maximise patient safety.

If you have any questions or hesitations about the scheduled procedure, please do not hesitate to call us to discuss any aspect of it.

CLIENT INITIALS

FORM 2 — INITIAL AND BRING WITH YOU

Surgical Information Form

Pet's name

Owner's name

Date

Please read carefully.

Anesthetic Procedures and Risks

We use a combination of pre-anesthetic medicines, injectable anesthetics 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, producing a good plane of surgical anesthesia with a quick recovery. For most procedures, your pet is anesthetised and then intubated (a tube is inserted into the trachea, or windpipe). This ensures that your pet is able to receive oxygen at all times and prevents aspiration of any fluid into the lungs.

For procedures that require minimum sedation, an injectable anesthetic is given that produces a good plane of sedation with quick recovery. Anesthesia is maintained with a gas anesthetic, sevoflurane, which is very safe and is not metabolised by the body. This gives us more control over anesthetic depth and is less irritating to the airways. A further advantage of sevoflurane is quick induction using a mask, compared with injectable anesthetics that require metabolism by the body.

Monitoring and Pain Management

Monitoring of patients during anesthesia is done in two ways. First, a veterinary nurse is with your pet continuously from the beginning of anesthesia through to recovery. Second, we use a computerised monitor that records heart rate, pulse rate, oxygen levels, respiration, ECG, and core and rectal temperature.

Our clinic strongly believes in compassionate, quality medical care for our patients. As a result, all surgery patients receive pain management before, during and after surgery. Pain relief may also be recommended for home use, and additional information will be given at discharge. We hope this reduces any discomfort experienced and aids a quicker recovery.

Intravenous Catheterization and Fluids

We highly recommend the placement of an IV catheter and the use of IV fluids during all anesthetic procedures. This gives us quick, available access to the circulatory system in case of an unforeseen emergency. The fluids help support the circulatory system and prevent dehydration, as well as aiding a quicker recovery from anesthesia.

Potential Surgical Complications

Canine and feline spay	Bleeding · Infection · Recurrent heat · Urinary incontinence · Weight gain · Suture reactions
Canine and feline neuter	Bleeding · Infection · Testicular swelling · Suture reaction (canine only)
Feline declaw	Bleeding · Infection · Limping or lameness · Regrowth of nail
Tumour or lump removal	Bleeding · Infection · Swelling and 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 all the added precautions you allow in order to avoid potential problems. Thank you for entrusting your pet to us.

CLIENT INITIALS _____**Acknowledgement**

I have read and understood the Pre-Anesthetic Blood Testing Information Form and the Surgical Information Form enclosed in this packet. I have had the opportunity to ask questions, and I understand that a separate Authorization/Estimate Form will be reviewed and signed at the practice on the day of the procedure.

Owner or authorised agent (signature)

Printed name

Date

Contact on the day of surgery

Primary phone

Alternate phone

Email

Please bring this packet with you, initialled, on the morning of your pet's procedure. We must be able to reach you by phone during the procedure.