

## 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 the 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 (Bring in Day of Surgery)
2. Surgical Information Sheet (Bring in Day of Surgery)

Please read carefully all the enclosed information. 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 and a Treatment Plan.

We require a phone number where you can be reached during the surgery day.

**Failure to be reached on the day of the procedure may result in postponement of the surgery.**

The night before the pet's surgery:

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

Please make arrangements for your pet to be dropped off between 7.30 and 9.00 am on the morning of the scheduled surgery unless other arrangements have been made in advance. For example, some clients prefer to have their pet admitted the evening prior to the surgery day. At the time of the drop off, our team will be happy to answer any questions and collect the completed Consent Form.

Our veterinary technician will escort your pet to the surgical prepping area to wait for their surgery. The blood samples for the recommended tests will be taken prior to surgery.

If any questions arise, the doctor may contact you at the number on the Consent Form.

You are welcome to check on your pet's status, however, we ask that you allow plenty of time for your pet's procedure to be done. At this time, we will be able to give you an idea when your pet may be discharged. When you arrive to take your pet home, the receptionist will bill you out and the veterinary technician will go over all the discharge instructions verbally and give you a written copy. If any instructions are unclear, please do not hesitate to ask.

We hope the surgery day will be a pleasant experience. Remember, 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 serve you and your pet on the upcoming surgery day and years to come.

## PRE-ANESTHETIC BLOOD TESTING INFORMATION FORM

Our greatest concern is the well-being of your pet. Before putting your pet under anesthesia, we routinely perform a full physical examination.

On all surgeries except young feline spays and neuters, we also perform a pre-anesthetic blood profile to maximize the patient's 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 the blood tests which are similar to those your own physician would perform if you were to go under anesthesia. In addition, these tests may be helpful if your pet's health changes to develop faster, more accurate diagnoses or treatments.

State of the art equipment enables us to perform the pre-anesthetic blood testing at our hospital and we are committed to making this technology available to our patients.

The consent form you will sign on your pet's surgery day will include pre-anesthetic blood work.

The Quantitative Blood Count and pre-anesthetic Profile include

1. CBC : PCV (Anemia), White Blood Cell Count (Infection), Red Blood Cell Count (Anemia/Bleeding Disorder), Platelet Count (Clotting Disorder)
2. Profile: BUN and Creatinine (Kidney), ALP and ALT (Liver), Glucose (Blood Sugar), Total Protein (Dehydration), Electrolytes (Imbalance)

You will notice other tests that are available but not included in the above choices. We have selected tests that give the doctor a suitable overview of healthy patients. However, if patients are in their senior years (above 7 years old) or are sick, a Comprehensive Panel will be recommended at the doctor's discretion. You will find this included in the treatment plan.

On the consent form, feline owner will see a FeLV/FIV option. We highly recommend this test to 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 about FeLV and FIV.

Canine owners will notice a Heartworm Test option on the consent form. We do recommend the test for all dogs with unknown status and yearly for dogs that are current on preventative. Please ask our staff to learn more about heartworms.

We also offer microchipping for dogs and cats.

We realize surgery and anesthesia are scary for both owner and patient and we attempt to make the surgery day as safe and comfortable as possible for all involved. The physical examination and blood work done prior to any surgical procedure allows us to best minimize any risk and maximize 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 the upcoming procedure.

CLIENT INITIALS \_\_\_\_\_

## SURGICAL INFORMATION FORM – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Anesthetic Procedures and Risks We use a combination of pre-anesthetic medications/injectables and/or inhalant anesthetics to achieve optimum levels of anesthesia that are as safe as possible 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 given an injectable induction agent and then intubated (insertion of a tube into the trachea). This will ensure that your pet is able to receive oxygen at all times and prevents aspiration of any fluids into the lungs. Anesthesia is maintained with a gas anesthetic, isoflurane. This allows us to have more control over the anesthetic depth and it is less irritating to the airways.

Monitoring and Pain Management: monitoring of patients during anesthesia is done by a veterinary technician who is with your pet continuously from beginning of anesthesia to recovery. Heart rate and oxygen saturation are constantly monitored by pulse-ox.

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 home. Additional information will be given at discharge. We hope the program will reduce any discomfort experienced and aid in a quicker recovery.

### Intravenous Catherization and Fluids

For all middle aged to older pets and depending on the type of surgery we will place an iv catheter prior to surgery and keep the patient on fluids during the surgery. This also allows us quick access to the circulatory system in case of an unforeseen emergency. The fluids help provide support to the circulatory system and prevent dehydration, as well as aid in faster recovery from anesthesia.

### Potential Post-Surgical Complications

1. Canine and Feline Spay: Bleeding, Infection, Seroma (built-up of fluid), Suture Reaction
2. Canine and Feline Neuter: Bleeding, Infection, Suture Reaction (Canine only)
3. Tumor Removal: Bleeding, Infection, Seroma, Suture Reaction
4. Dental Cleaning/Treatment: Bleeding, Infection, Sinus Involvement
5. All procedures with intubation: Sore Throat, Coughing

Recovery Collar: After most procedures, your pet will be fitted with a soft recovery collar to prevent them from accessing and irritating/licking or scratching the surgery site. As the collars are soft, they shouldn't interfere with your pet's daily activities, such as eating/drinking, sleeping, or walking.

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 and take all the added precautions to avoid potential problems. Thank you for trusting your pet to us.

CLIENT INITIALS \_\_\_\_\_