

Dear Client,

Your pet has been scheduled for surgery in the near future.

We have put together this pamphlet to make surgery day as easy and stress-free as possible.

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 will present a **surgery estimate and authorization form** for you to review and sign. We will ask you to provide a phone number where you can be reached that day.

It is important that we be able to reach you during your pet's surgery. In the event of an unforeseen complication or emergency, we may need to speak with someone who has the authority to make decisions concerning your pet.

PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS:

The evening before your pet's surgery...

- **Withhold all food and treats after 9:00pm. Remind family members not to feed breakfast or treats in the morning.**
- **Water may be left down until your appointment time**
- **If you are currently administering any medications, vitamins and/or injections, please contact our office for instructions on whether to give the medication prior to surgery.**
- **Current vaccinations are required for most hospital admissions. Please locate and bring your pet's records with you to the surgery appointment.** (DHPP, Bordetella, Rabies for dogs, FVRCP, Rabies for cats)
- **Please make a list of any procedures you might wish to have performed while your pet is under anesthesia. These might include nail trimming, ear cleaning, anal sac expression or microchipping, etc. We offer most of these types of services at a discount if they are done while a pet is under anesthesia.**

PRE-ANESTHETIC BLOOD TESTING INFORMATION FORM

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY.

Our greatest concern is the well being of your pet. Before anesthetizing your pet, we will perform a full physical examination. However, many conditions, including disorders of the liver, kidneys or blood, are not detected unless blood screening is performed. Such tests are especially important prior to any type of anesthetic procedure.

For this reason, we **highly recommend a blood screening be performed** before anesthesia is administered to your pet. *State of the art equipment enables us to perform the pre-anesthetic blood profile at our hospital.* So results will be available for the doctor's examination prior to your pet being anesthetized. If there are any abnormalities with your pet's results, the doctor will call and advise you of the recommended protocol.

Note: for pets 7 years and older, blood screening is required prior to any anesthetic procedure.

The **Pre-Anesthetic Blood Profile** helps alert your pet's surgeon to the presence of dehydration, anemia, infection, diabetes, kidney or liver disease or other problems that could complicate the procedure. These conditions may go undetected without a blood screening. The **Pre-Anesthetic Blood Profile** allows for the most appropriate and safest anesthetic regime to be administered, helping ensure the utmost safety for your pet's anesthetic procedure. Our Pre anesthetic testing is similar to that which your own physician would run if you were to undergo anesthesia. In addition to surgical safety, these tests may be useful if your pet experiences health changes later. Having baseline results helps to develop faster, more accurate diagnoses and treatments.

The **Authorization Form** you will sign on your pet's surgery date will offer pre-anesthetic blood testing.

ADMITTING AND PICK UP INFORMATION

Please arrive at your scheduled time to drop off your pet for surgery. You should plan to allow 15 minutes to complete the admitting paperwork. If the doctor is to examine your pet before you leave him/her, please allow 30-45 minutes. **If you are sending someone else to drop off your pet, please contact us in advance so that we can make arrangements** for you to complete the admitting paperwork prior to the surgery day. If you are unable to drop off your pet in the morning, we do offer courtesy boarding the afternoon/evening prior to surgery. Please call ahead for afternoon/evening admitting times and instructions.

At the time of admitting, please be prepared to answer the following questions :

When did your pet last eat? _____ Any medication allergies? _____
Is your pet currently on medication? _____ Has your pet ever had a seizure? _____
Is your pet currently exhibiting: Coughing sneezing vomiting poor appetite diarrhea
Does your pet suffer from any chronic medical problems? _____

When you drop off your pet, the receptionist will give you instructions for picking up your pet. Usually, we will ask you to call at 3:00pm to schedule a pick up appointment. For pet's staying overnight, we will ask you to call again in the morning before scheduling a pick up time. This allows the doctor time for a post operative check in the morning and to address any needs your pet may have

When you arrive for your pick up appointment, the receptionist will complete your billing and give you a surgery after care sheet with post operative instructions. If your pet is to receive medication at home, the receptionist will explain the medication and dosing.

You will then meet with the Veterinarian to discuss your pet's procedure and to answer any questions you may have. After the doctor consultation your faithful companion will be reunited with you. We are happy to assist if you need help to your car.

We hope surgery day will be a pleasant experience. We know surgery can be an anxious time for you. Please call if you have questions or concerns about the upcoming procedure. We look forward to seeing you and your pet for the surgery appointment.

SURGICAL INFORMATION

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY.

Anesthetic Procedures & Risks

We use a combination of pre-anesthetic medications/injectable and/or inhalant anesthetics to achieve optimum levels of anesthesia that are safe for your pet.

For some 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 or wind pipe). This will ensure that your pet is able to receive oxygen at all times and prevents aspiration of any fluids 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, which is very safe and is not metabolized by the body. This allows us to have more control over anesthetic depth and it is less irritating to the airways.

Monitoring & Pain Management-Monitoring of patients during anesthesia is done in two ways.

Firstly, a veterinary nurse is with your pet continuously from beginning of anesthesia to recovery. In addition, we have a computerized monitor that records heart rate, pulse rate, oxygen levels, respiration.

Our clinic strongly believes in compassionate, quality, medical care for our patients. Therefore, all surgery patients will receive pain management before, during and after surgery. Additionally, pain medication may be prescribed and sent home. Additional information will be given at discharge. We hope this program will reduce any discomfort experienced and aid in a quicker recovery.

Potential Complications-

The staff of Tri City Veterinary Clinic will use the utmost care and caution during your pet's anesthetic procedure. However, it is important for you to understand that there is always a risk of anesthetic and surgical complications. We strive to take the highest quality care of your pet and to offer all the added precautions available to avoid potential problems.

Thank you for entrusting your pet to us.