

What to Expect on Your Pet's Surgery Day

SURGERIES ARE SCHEDULED TUESDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS

We will schedule your pet's appointment time or assign a drop off time between 8:00am-9:30am on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Your pet's surgery may be started in the late morning, early afternoon, or mid-afternoon depending on that day's surgery order. We may not be able to determine our surgery order until the day of, and therefore, cannot give you an exact time that surgery will start. Please choose a date that your pet can be at our hospital for most of the day as we may not be able to guarantee specific surgery times, surgery order, or specific discharge times.

DROP OFF TIMES ARE NOT SURGERY TIMES

We schedule your pet's drop-off time to allow for pre-surgical preparation such as bloodwork, IV catheter placement, etc. This process can sometimes take up to 1.5-2 hours to prep your pet prior to starting surgery.

MOST SURGERIES REQUIRE PETS TO BE HOSPITALIZED BETWEEN 4-6 HOURS

We will call your cell phone as soon as surgery is completed to assign a pick up time. We try to give at least a 1 hour warning to allow for travel. Pick up times are usually assigned between 3-4:30pm. Please plan your day to pick up no later than 4:30pm, to allow time to go over discharge instructions, as our office closes at 5pm.

MOST EYE SURGERIES WILL REQUIRE THE USE OF a Rosse/Elizabethan CONE

This cone is fitted and provided by us after your pet's surgery. Please leave your pet's regular neck collar on since it may be needed to attach to the protective cone collar and keep it in place. **If you choose to provide your own cone, it must be the hard, rigid, plastic variety. Soft, bendable cones DO NOT protect the eye from your pet's attempts to rub post-surgery.** Also, most eye surgeries will require topical eye drops 1-4 times daily (depending on type of surgery) and oral (by mouth) medications.

It is our policy that pre-anesthetic bloodwork (CBC and a Chem Profile) is performed by us on the day of surgery or by your veterinarian *prior* to the day of your pet's surgery. We will accept bloodwork that has been done previously as long as it was within normal limits and performed within the last 3 months. Please note: It is NOT an option to decline having bloodwork for your pet prior to anesthesia and surgery.

YOUR PET WILL HAVE A SMALL AREA OF HAIR CLIPPED AROUND THE SURGICAL AREA & FORELIMB (IV catheter placement). Please understand that this is a necessary means for reasons of aseptic surgery.

MEDICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

- If your pet is on any topical eye drops, it is OK to give them the day of surgery, unless previously instructed otherwise. Also, please bring them with you the day of surgery so that we may place new labels, as directions may change after surgery, or give you refills if needed.
- If your pet is on any oral (by mouth) medications, please DO NOT give them the morning of surgery as they may affect our anesthesia protocol. There may be certain exceptions to this rule so please inform us of all medications your pet is taking prior to the surgery day.

FEEDING INSTRUCTIONS:

- **Diabetic Patients: The day before surgery:** feed and dispense insulin following your normal routine. Pick up any left-over food after 10pm. **The day of surgery:** DO NOT FEED IN THE AM/ GIVE HALF DOSE OF INSULIN-MAKE SURE TO BRING EYE DROPS, FOOD, INSULIN and a SYRINGE WITH YOUR PET-water is ok the AM of surgery day.
- **Non-Diabetic Patients: The day before surgery:** feed and water following your normal routine. Pick up any left-over food after 10pm. **The day of surgery:** DO NOT FEED-water is ok the AM of surgery day. Bring eye drops to surgery appt.