

## **SURGICAL INFORMATION FORM**

Please Read Carefully

### **Anesthetic Procedures and Risks**

We use a combination of injectable pre-anesthetic medications 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 using an injectable anesthetic and then intubated (insertion of a tube into the trachea/wind pipe) to receive a gas anesthetic called Isoflurane. Intubating your pet will also ensure that your pet is able to receive oxygen at all times and prevents aspiration of any fluids into the lungs. Isoflurane is very safe and is not metabolized by the liver or kidney. We are able to adjust the amount of inhalant anesthetic as needed, which allows us to have more control over anesthetic depth.

### **Monitoring & Pain Management**

Monitoring of patients during anesthesia is done by both staff members and machine. We have monitors that display heart rate, pulse rate, oxygen levels, respiration, and ECG. From beginning of anesthesia through recovery, a veterinarian is with your pet continuously. To help with a quicker recovery we maintain the patient's body temperature by using a heated surgery table and other warming devices. A staff member stays with your pet until they are fully recovered from anesthesia and ready to go home.

Our hospital strongly believes in compassionate, quality medical care for our patients. For major surgeries or painful dentals, patients will receive pain management before, during and after surgery. Additional pain medication may also be sent home. More information will be given to you at discharge. We hope this program will reduce any discomfort experienced and aid in a quicker recovery.

### **Intravenous Catheterization and Fluids**

We either place an IV catheter and use IV fluids or administer subcutaneous (under the skin) fluids during all anesthetic procedures. An IV catheter 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 kidney damage and dehydration, as well as aid in a quicker recovery from anesthesia.

The veterinarian will discuss any potential surgical complications with you during the surgery check in.

When your pet comes home there may be some nausea and anorexia (lack of appetite). If this persists overnight please call us.

**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 appropriate added precautions to avoid potential problems. Thank you for entrusting your pet to us.**

## SURGICAL INFORMATION PACKET

Dear Client,

Your pet has been scheduled for a surgery in the near future. We have put together this pack to make surgery day as easy and stress-free as possible.

In addition to this introductory letter, you will find the following information:

1. Pre-Anesthetic Blood Testing Information Form
2. Surgical Information Sheet

Please read all the enclosed information carefully. If you have any questions feel free to call us. On your pet's surgery day, we require you to review and sign a **Consent Form** which allows you to choose optional services.

We require a phone number(s) where you can be reached surgery day.

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

The night before your pet's surgery....

- **Withhold all food and treats after midnight**
- **Water may be left down until 7am day of surgery**
- **If you are currently administering any medications, vitamins and/or injections, give the morning dose unless otherwise instructed by the doctor.** (It is okay to give the oral medication in a tiny treat if needed. If you do use a treat, please advise us upon admission.)

Please make arrangements for your pet to be here on the morning of scheduled surgery for check in and examination by the doctor, unless other arrangements have been made in advance. Our staff will be happy to answer any questions/concerns and help you fill out and sign the **Consent Form** at check in.

Our veterinary staff member will escort your pet to the surgery preparation area to wait for their surgery. If you have elected any of the optional procedures or additional lab tests, our staff will collect all blood samples and test prior to surgery.

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

You are welcome to check up on your pet's status at anytime. However, we request that you please 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 a staff member 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 questions.

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 questions concerning the upcoming procedure.

We look forward to serving you and your pet on the upcoming surgery day and in years to come.