

Pre Surgery Information



Fasting

Your dog or cat should not consume food within twelve hours prior to surgery, we advise to feed your pet dinner before 8pm the night before its procedure and then to take away any other food that is available in the house overnight, including other pet's food. Water does not need to be withheld. Guinea pigs, Rabbits and Ferrets don't need fasting and should have food available at all times. Please bring in your pocket pets food with you at admission so they can eat pre and post-surgery

Bathing

We recommend bathing your dogs in the days prior to surgery to ensure they are free from excess dirt to avoid contamination of their surgical site. After your pets procedure they cannot be bathed for two weeks to ensure the wound has time to heal.

Admission and Discharge

You will be given an appointment time for your pet to be admitted for their procedure. Please allow 10 minutes for one of our nurses to go through the admission form with you.

Once your pet has recovered after their surgery, a nurse will call you and organise a time to collect your pet and go through any information regarding your pets procedure and aftercare. Routine surgeries will usually only stay for the day and will be able to go home in the afternoon or evening. Some major surgeries will need to stay overnight to be monitored.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO FOLLOW ALL PRE AND POST OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS TO ENSURE THE BEST OUTCOME FOR YOUR PET

Intravenous Fluids and Pre Anaesthetic Blood tests

During your pets admission the nurse will also mention the option of doing a pre-anaesthetic blood test or placing your animal on intravenous fluids during their procedure. Prior to anaesthesia a pre-anaesthetic blood test can be performed. This is to check your animal's internal organ function, which can affect the way they handle anaesthesia.

Animals over the age of 8 are strongly recommended to have blood tests prior to anaesthesia. Intravenous fluid therapy is also recommended. This helps us to maintain your pet's hydration and blood pressure throughout anaesthesia. It also assists your pet in the metabolism and excretion of the anaesthetic drugs administered during the procedure, allowing for a smoother and faster recovery time.

Additional Procedures

Whilst your animal is in for his or her procedure, we are more than happy to do additional treatments that can sometimes be tricky when your pet is awake. Make sure you tell the nurse on admission if you would like to request anything extra.

Some of these include: Nail trims, anal gland expressions, lump checks, ear cleaning, worming, flea treatments and vaccinations.

Please note; if any fleas are found on your pet, flea treatment will be applied at the owners cost.

Medications

It is extremely important for our staff to know of any medications or supplements your pet is taking prior to surgery. Please ensure you have a list of any names of medications you have been giving your pet and when they were last given.

If you are unsure whether your pet should have this medication before surgery, please call us and we can discuss this with you prior to the day.

Desexing

Dogs

If your dog has been in season recently, we advise to wait six weeks after the bleeding has stopped to make sure the surgery is as safe as possible. In season bitches have larger blood vessels and more delicate tissue which can make surgery more difficult.

If your dog has had a litter recently, we advise to wait until the puppies are weaned from the mother and until her mammary tissue has decreased in size before having her desexed.

There may be a surcharge of up to \$90 dollars additional to any spey cost if your dog has had litters in the past, is over the age of 5 years old or is in season during desexing as the procedure will take more time and materials.

Our nurses and vets are happy to discuss this with you at the time of booking or admission and organise a time that is right for your dog.

Cats

Cats can become pregnant as early as 4 months of age if they are outdoors or with a male cat who is not desexed. Please ensure your cat is indoors only prior to being desexed to avoid pregnancy.

If your cat is pregnant or in season, a surcharge of up to \$90 dollars may be charged as the surgery is more involved.

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