

Pre Surgery Info Dogs & Cats



Please read these notes if your cat or dog is scheduled for surgery.

This information sheet is to help you prepare for the procedure and to make sure everything goes smoothly on the day. We are here to help and if you require any further information please don't hesitate to contact us.

Pre-anaesthetic instructions

Please do not give any food after 8pm on the evening before surgery and take water away the morning of the procedure. No treats and no cheating! An empty stomach is important for safe anaesthesia.

When your pet is being admitted to hospital, please allow 15 minutes for your pet to have a physical examination and for you to discuss the procedure with the veterinarian. Please feel free to ask any questions during this time.

Many pet owners like to wash their dogs the day before surgery as if they have a surgical wound they should not be washed until this has healed and the sutures have been removed 10 - 14 days later.

If your pet is taking medication, give the normal dose at the usual time unless otherwise directed. If your pet is diabetic, please ask the veterinarian for special instructions.

Allow your pet exercise and time to toilet unless otherwise instructed.

Pre-anaesthetic testing

We can perform a pre-anaesthetic blood test before your pet's surgery to check general health and for any possible anaesthetic risks. We particularly recommend these tests for any animal over 7 years of age - a senior pet. Any abnormalities found may need to be corrected before surgery, or may simply mean a change in the anaesthetic we use. In this way we minimise the surgical and anaesthetic risks.

Intravenous fluids

We recommend intravenous fluid therapy for all our patients undergoing an anaesthetic. This helps to maintain their blood pressure and to have a quicker recovery time afterwards. We strongly recommend this for any animal over 7 years of age. You can decide whether to have intravenous fluids on the day of the surgery.

Other considerations

While your pet is in hospital for the day, consider whether any other procedures need to be done at the same time, such as:-

- Dental clean
- Vaccination or worming/flea/heartworm treatment.
- Microchipping
- Nail trim
- Express anal glands
- Ear examination/clean

Check with the vet or receptionist about pick up arrangements in the evening and make sure your contact details are up to date.

Payment must be made on the day when you pick up your pet. Please ask for an estimate of the expected fees and other charges that will be incurred on the day.

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Important things to remember

- No food after 8pm the night before
- Wash your dog the day before surgery
- Consider pre-anaesthetic blood testing and intravenous fluids.
- Bring a toy or a favourite bed and remember to toilet your pet on the morning of surgery.

Please feel free to contact us on 5986 1555 if you have any further questions.