

Patient Pre-Operative Guidance

These notes are designed to make your pet's stay with us as comfortable and as safe as possible. Please read the instructions carefully and adhere to them as closely as you can unless directed otherwise by a member of staff.

Your pet's operation is on;

- **Please bring your pet to us between 8:30am and 10:30am.**
- **Do not feed your pet (dog or cat) from 8pm the night before their operation (with the exception of diabetics).**
This minimises the risk of vomiting during anaesthesia.
- **Allow them to drink water until 8am on the morning before admission.**
- **Please exercise your dog before admission to the practice.**
This will ensure that their bowels and bladder are empty.
- **Please ensure your pet is clean before admission.**
This will reduce the risk of complications from infection due to contaminated wounds.
- **Please ensure the person bringing your pet is over 18 years old.**
We will ask them to sign a consent form giving your permission for us to administer anaesthesia and perform surgery as agreed. This needs to be signed by a responsible adult.
- **Please read the consent form carefully ensuring that you fully understand its content before signing.**
If you are in any doubt, please ask a member of staff to explain. If you feel that there is any other problem we should know about please inform us at this stage.
- **Please leave a phone number that we can contact you on should there be any unexpected circumstances.**
- **Consider pre-operative blood tests.**
As most procedures require general anaesthesia, we routinely advise a pre-operative blood test for all patients over 8 years old to check on the health status of the internal organs such as liver and kidneys. Anaesthetics are mostly de-activated by the body in the liver and kidneys so any reduction in function could affect both depth and duration of anaesthesia. If any abnormality is detected in the blood test, we may elect to postpone surgery until further tests give a clean bill of health. With some elderly or particularly debilitated patients, we may also recommend that they receive fluids via an intravenous drip during and post surgery to minimise complications such as shock or kidney failure.

- **Anaesthesia**

We use the very latest anaesthesia agents and extensive monitoring equipment to ensure anaesthesia is as safe as possible for all animals.

- **Ensure a responsible person collects your pet**

When your pet is discharged you will be given guidance on exercise, feeding (for example scrambled egg, or chicken and rice), medication and wound management. You may also be asked to make a further appointment(s) for post-operative checks (usually after 3 days) and for suture removal (usually 10 days post op).

- **Collection**

We advise you to ring us from 3pm onwards on the day of the operation to get an update on your pets progress and we shall advise you of a time you will be able to collect your pet from.

- **Payment**

All fees are due when you collect your pet. Payment by card is preferred.

Thank you