



# LITTLE CREEK

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## VETERINARY CLINIC

### Canine Surgery Comfort Care Package

#### Why a Comfort Care Package?

Just like people, pets can experience stress and anxiety in certain situations. Activities such as vet visits, grooming appointments, nail trims or surgical drop offs can sometimes feel overwhelming. The goal of our Comfort Care packages is to help reduce your pets' anxiety by providing safe, prescribed medication to help reduce stress, anxiety and discomfort the morning of procedures or exams.

#### What's in the Comfort Care Package?

##### Gabapentin:

- This medication is a mild oral sedative that helps reduce anxiety to make appointments and procedures a calmer experience.
- Should be given 1-2 hours prior to drop-offs/exams to alleviate stress during the day.

##### Tradozone:

- An anti-anxiety medication that can cause sedation and help reduce stress in the clinic.
- Works well in combination with gabapentin to achieve a more balanced calming effect.
- Given 1-2 hours prior to the stressful event.

##### Maropitant (Cerenia):

- An anti-emetic that lasts for 24 hours.
- Controlling nausea and vomiting, promoting faster recovery and helping your pet feel like eating sooner after surgery.
- Oral tablet to be given the night before the procedure. By giving this medication the night before surgery, your pet is less likely to experience vomiting or an upset stomach as a side effect of the fasting protocol and anesthetic drugs.

#### When to use the Comfort Care Package

- Before a scheduled veterinary exam, surgery drop off, nail trim or dental procedure
- Any time you anticipate a high-stress situation for your pet, such as travel or entering an unfamiliar environment

#### How to Get Started

**Eligibility:** Your pet must be healthy, with no recent changes in their medical history and must have been examined by our veterinary team within the last 6-12 months. No medication is 100% safe for every patient, but we can increase the safety of these drugs by knowing all important information about your pet's history.

#### Requesting a Package:

Either during a routine health exam or pre-surgical consultation or if you've already discussed this with our team, you may request a refill over the phone or through our website. We will review your pet's medical history to ensure it's still appropriate to dispense the package.



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### **Medication Dosing and Instructions**

**Customized by weight:** The correct dose for these medications depends on your pet's body weight. We must have a current weight on file for your pet to dispense the correct dosage.

**Timing:** Proper timing helps ensure the medication takes effect before the stressful event, allowing your pet to remain calmer and more at ease

**Administration:** Please follow label instructions as prescribed by your veterinarian.

### **Safety and Precautions**

**Monitor your pet:** Observe your pet for any unusual behavior such as excessive sedation or difficulty walking. Contact us if there are any concerns.

**No sharing of medications:** Never share these medications with other pets or give them to your pet without our guidance, as dosages are calculated based on your pet's weight and needs.

**Keep us informed:** If your pet's health changes or if they develop new medical conditions, please let us know before using the Comfort Care Package again.

### **Questions?**

We're here to help! If you have any questions about the the package, dosing instructions, or whether it's appropriate for your pet, please call us at 403-452-2060.

Our goal is to ensure that your pet's experience is as stress-free and positive as possible.