

# SURGICAL INFORMATION PACKET

Dear Client,

Your pet has been scheduled for an upcoming surgery in the near future. In our attempt to assist clients, we have put together this packet to make surgery day as easy and stress-free as possible.

In addition to this letter, you will find that the following information has been enclosed:

1. Pre-Anesthetic Blood Testing Information Form (**Initial and bring in day of surgery if possible**)
2. Surgical Information Sheet (**Initial and bring in day of Surgery if possible**)

Please read carefully all the enclosed information. If you have any questions, please feel free to call us. On your pets' surgery day, we require you to review and sign an **Authorization/Estimate Form**— which allows you to choose optional services. This form is not included in the packet and will be provided to you at our office prior to admitting your pet for services.

**PLEASE NOTE:** We require at least one of the individuals on your pets file with us to be present to sign the authorization/admit forms on surgery day. If someone other than the individuals listed on your pets file is bringing your pet in for surgery we **require** your authorization prior to surgery day.

We require a phone number(s) where you can be reached on surgery day. **Failure to be reached on the day of the procedure may result in postponement of the surgery.**

The night before your pet's surgery...

- **Withhold all food and treats after 6:00pm.**
- **Water may be left down after this time period.**
- **If you are currently administering any medications, vitamins and/or injections, withhold the morning doses unless otherwise instructed by the doctor.**

You and your pet will meet with one of our surgical team members at your set appointment time. This pre-surgical appointment will take approximately 10 mins. During the surgical admit, our team will be happy to answer any questions/concerns and collect the enclosed/completed **Information Forms**. If you are unable to print these forms at home, please be sure you have reviewed them and we will have pre-printed authorization forms available for you to sign during the admit appointment.

You will speak to the veterinarian and he/she or another member of the surgical team will then escort your pet to the surgical prepping area to wait for their surgery. If you have elected any of the recommended blood tests, we will collect all blood samples and tests prior to surgery. If any questions arise, the doctor may contact you at the number on the **Authorization Form** you will complete the morning of surgery.

Our Surgical Technician will be calling you in the afternoon to update you on how your pet is doing and to go over all the discharge instructions. At this time, they will also take payment for the procedure in order to make your pets surgical discharge a smooth one. If you have not heard from us, and it is after 2pm you are welcome to call and check in. When you arrive to take your pet home, one of our client care team members will give you a written copy of the discharge instructions, any medications that are needed post-operatively and also give you your invoice. If you do not understand any of the discharge instructions, please do not hesitate to ask one of our team to go over them one more time.

We hope surgery day will be a pleasant experience. Remember, our team knows surgery can be an anxious time and we are always available to answer any and all questions concerning the upcoming procedure.

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

# PRE-ANESTHETIC BLOOD TESTING INFORMATION FORM

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Our greatest concern is the well-being of your pet. Before putting your pet under anesthesia, we routinely perform a full physical examination.

We also highly recommend and sometimes require that a **Pre-Anesthetic Blood Profile** be performed on all pets' undergoing anesthesia to maximize patient safety.

The **Pre-Anesthetic Blood Profile** helps alert our surgeon to the presence of dehydration, anemia, infection, diabetes and/or kidney or liver disease that could complicate the procedure. These conditions may not be detected **without** a pre-anesthetic profile thus not allowing for the most appropriate and safest anesthetic regime to be administered. These tests are similar to those your own physician would run if you were to undergo anesthesia. In addition, these tests may be useful if your pet's health changes to develop faster, more accurate diagnoses and treatments.

The **Authorization Form** you will sign on your pet's surgery date at our office will offer pre-anesthetic blood work.

1. **The Quantitative Blood Count (QBC) and Pre-Anesthetic Profile**, check for abnormalities which includes:
  - **CBC:** White Blood Cell Count (eg.Infection) & Red Blood Cell Count (eg.Anemia/Bleeding Disorder), Platelet Count (eg.Clotting Disorder)
  - **Profile:** BUN and Creatinine (Kidney Levels), ALKP and ALT (Liver Levels), Glucose (Sugar), Total Protein (eg.Dehydration).
2. **Owner Elects to Decline** the recommended pre-anesthetic blood tests at this time but requests that we proceed with the procedure. This is indicated by **NOT** checking the optional procedures.

You will notice other tests available that are not included in the above choices. We have selected tests that give the doctors a suitable overview of healthy patients. However, if the patients are in their senior years (above 7 years old) or are sick, the FULL senior profile can be done the day of the procedure at the owner's request and at times may be required. It has been included in the high amount estimate.

For **feline patients**, our feline owners will see an option for a **FeLV/FIV Test**. We highly recommend this test be performed on all feline patients at least once in their lives because Feline Leukemia and Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (Feline Aids) are viruses for which no cure exists. If your cat goes outside, we recommend administering the Feline Leukemia vaccine as well. Please ask questions if you would like to learn more about Feline Leukemia and Feline Aids.

We realize surgery and anesthesia are scary for both the owner and patient and we attempt to make surgery day as safe and comfortable for all involved. The physical examination and blood work done prior to any surgical procedure allows us to best minimize anesthetic and surgical risks and maximize patient safety.

If you have any questions or hesitations about the scheduled procedure, please do not hesitate to call us to discuss any aspect of the upcoming procedure.

CLIENT INITIALS \_\_\_\_\_

# SURGICAL INFORMATION FORM

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

## Anesthetic Procedures & Risks

We use a combination of pre-anesthetic medications/injectable and/or 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 and then intubated (insertion of a tube into the trachea or wind pipe). This will ensure that your pet is able to receive oxygen at all times and prevents aspiration of any fluids into the lungs.

**For procedures that require minimum sedation**, an injectable anesthetic is given that produces a good plane of sedation with quick recovery. Anesthesia is maintained with a gas anesthetic, Sevoflurane, which is very safe and is not metabolized by the body. This allows us to have more control over anesthetic depth and it is less irritating to the airways. Another advantage to Sevoflurane is a quick induction using a mask verses using injectable anesthetics that require metabolism from the body.

**Monitoring & Pain Management**-Monitoring of patients during anesthesia is done in two ways. First, a veterinary technician is with your pet continuously from beginning of anesthesia to recovery. Second, we have a computerized monitor that records heart rate, pulse rate, oxygen levels, respiration, ECG, core and rectal temperature and blood pressure.

Our clinic strongly believes in compassionate, quality, medical care for our patients. As a result, all surgery patients will receive pain management before, during and after surgery. Additionally, pain medication may be prescribed home. Additional information will be given at discharge. We hope this program will reduce any discomfort experienced and aid in a quicker recovery.

## Potential Surgical Complications

1. Bleeding 2. Infection 3. Recurrent Heat 4. Urinary Incontinence 5. Suture Reactions

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

CLIENT INITIALS \_\_\_\_\_