

SURGICAL INFORMATION PACKET

Dear Client,

Your pet has been scheduled for an upcoming surgical procedure. 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 (**Bring in Day of Surgery**)
2. Surgical Information Form (**Bring in Day of Surgery**)

Please read carefully the enclosed information. If you have questions, please feel free to call us. On your pet's surgery day, we require you to review and sign a **Surgical Authorization/Estimate Form**, which allows you to choose optional services.

We require a phone number where you can be reached on surgery day.

Failure to be reached by phone on the day of the procedure may result in postponement of the surgery.

The night before your pet's surgery:

- **Withhold all water, food and treats after midnight.**
- **If you are currently administering any medications, vitamins and/or injections, withhold the morning doses unless otherwise instructed by the Doctor. Please bring all medications with your pet.**
- **A small meal will be offered after your pet recovers from the anesthesia. You are welcome to bring a serving of your pet's regular diet, otherwise food is provided.**

Please make arrangements for your pet to be dropped off between 8:00am – 8:30am on the morning of scheduled surgery, unless other arrangements have been made in advance. At the time of drop off, our team will be happy to answer any questions/concerns you may have, and collect the enclosed/completed forms.

Our veterinary nurse will escort your pet to the surgical prepping area to wait for their surgery. If you have elected any of the recommended blood tests, our nurse will collect all blood samples, and tests will be performed prior to surgery. If any questions arise, the Doctor may contact you at the number you provided on the Surgical Authorization/Estimate Form. You will be contacted when your pet is in recovery. At this time we will be able to give you an idea of when your pet may be discharged. When you arrive to take your pet home, the receptionist will bill you out, and the veterinary nurse will go over all discharge orders verbally and give you a written copy. If you do not understand any instructions, please do not hesitate to ask the nurse to go over them again. It is extremely important that you follow these instructions exactly to ensure a quick and complication free recovery. **If the Doctor has discharged your pet with an Elizabethan or Bite-Not Collar to prevent injury to the incision(s), it must be worn at all times for the period of time prescribed.** Licking or chewing at the incision(s)/sutures causes trauma to the skin, inviting infection and significantly slowing down the healing process. Additional charges may be incurred if treatment is necessary due to your pet not wearing the device as prescribed.

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

Sincerely,

Dr. Jeff Mills and the Countryside Animal Hospital Staff

CLIENT INITIALS _____

Office Use Only	/ /	Client ID:	Patient ID:
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PRE-ANESTHETIC BLOOD TESTING INFORMATION FORM

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, bleeding and clotting disorders, diabetes and/or kidney and liver disease that could complicate the procedure. These conditions may not be detectable **without** a pre-anesthetic blood profile thus not allowing for the most appropriate and safest anesthetic protocol to be administered. These tests are similar to those your own physician would run if you were to undergo anesthesia. In addition, these tests will be useful in the future if your pet's health changes, to develop faster and more accurate diagnoses and treatments.

**State of the art equipment enables us to perform the pre-anesthetic blood profile at our hospital in a matter of minutes, and we are committed to making this technology available to our patients.*

The **Surgical Authorization/Estimate Form** you will sign on your pet's surgery day will offer one of the following Pre-Anesthetic Blood Profile Panels:

1. **Pre-Surgical Profile-** For pets under 6 years of age
 - **Complete Blood Count (CBC):** Assesses anemia, infection, bleeding disorders and clotting capability
 - **Profile:** ALT and ALKP (liver), GLUCOSE (blood sugar, diabetes), CREATININE and BUN (kidney), TOTAL PROTEIN (dehydration, liver, kidney, bowel) and ELECTROLYTES (metabolic status)
2. **Complete Health Profile-** For pets over 6 years of age, and younger pets with health conditions
 - **Complete Blood Count (CBC):** Assesses anemia, infection, bleeding disorders and clotting capability
 - **Profile:** ALB, ALT and ALKP (liver); GLUCOSE (blood sugar, diabetes); PHOS, CREATININE and BUN (kidney) ; TOTAL PROTEIN (dehydration, liver, kidney, bowel); CA (indicates certain cancers); TOTAL BILIRUBIN, AMYLASE and LIPASE (in dogs) or GGT (in cats) (pancreas) and ELECTROLYTES (metabolic status)

We realize that surgery and anesthesia can be scary for both you and your pet and we attempt to make surgery day as safe and comfortable as possible for all involved. The physical examination and blood work prior to any surgical procedure allows us to best minimize anesthetic and surgical risks, and maximize patient safety.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have .

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SURGICAL INFORMATION FORM

Please read carefully.

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

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.

Monitoring and Pain Management

Monitoring of patients during anesthesia is done two ways. First, a veterinary nurse is with your pet continuously from the beginning of anesthesia to recovery. Second, we have computerized monitor that records heart rate, oxygen levels, respiration, ECG, core and rectal temperature.

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. In addition, our post surgery therapy laser session helps to reduce pain and swelling, and speeds healing. For most surgical patients, pain medication will be prescribed for you to continue to give at home. Additional information will be given at your pet's discharge. We are confident that this program will reduce any discomfort experienced, and aid in a quicker recovery.

Potential Surgical Complications

Canine and Feline Spay

1. Bleeding
2. Infection
3. Recurrent Heat
4. Urinary Incontinence
5. Weight Gain
6. Suture Failure/Reactions

Canine and Feline Neuter

1. Bleeding
2. Infection
3. Scrotal Swelling
4. Suture Failure/Reactions (Canine Only)

Feline Declaw

1. Bleeding
2. Infection
3. Limping/Lameness
4. Regrowth of Nail

Tumor/Lump Removal

1. Bleeding
2. Infection
3. Swelling and Drainage
4. Suture Failure/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 of the added precautions you allow to avoid potential problems. Thank you for entrusting your pet's care to us.

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