

Surgical Information

You will be asked to sign a copy of the Surgical Authorization when you drop your cat off for surgery. Please read this through and have any questions ready for the doctor or technician.

All cats admitted for an anesthesia procedure must be fasted from 7 pm the night before admission, have water withheld from midnight the night before admission, and arrive at our office, on the dog clinic side, between 7-8 am the morning of the scheduled procedure.

For admission into the hospital ward, all cats should be current on the core vaccinations (cat: rabies, dist-rhino, feline Bordetella) and have had a complete blood panel performed within the previous 6 months. If any of these requirements have not been met, we shall update them upon admission.

IV fluid therapy is administered to all pets undergoing anesthesia in order to maintain hydration, kidney function and to help prevent vascular shock. Therefore, your cat will have a small shaved area most probably on its front leg where the IV catheter will be placed.

The Surgical Laser is available for all surgical procedures. It is standard operating procedure for all spays, neuters and declaws, and is an option for all other surgeries. The Laser is typically not needed for dental procedures.

Pain medication is sent home with all surgical procedures. The only exception is a routine dental cleaning without extractions, which is typically not painful during recovery and therefore does not need pain medication.

For dental procedures, we will ask for an immediate contact number so that we may alert you of any needed extractions or procedures. Your cat will be under anesthesia when we call, so please have this number available and the phone nearby while your cat is in the hospital.

Depending on the procedure, your cat will either be released after 3 pm the day of surgery or after 9 am the following day. Please be ready to set an appointment for the discharge so that you do not have to wait an overlong time for release instructions. If the person picking up the pet will not be the one dropping off, please be sure to discuss this so that a discharge appointment may be scheduled.

Unless otherwise specified, do not give any medications on the morning of the procedure. Exceptions to this rule are Phenobarbital and/or Potassium Bromide.

If there are any other services that you would like to be performed while your pet is here, please bring a list so that we can get everything coordinated. Examples would be nails trimmed, anal gland expression, ear cleaning, Home Again chip placement or dispensing Heartworm or Flea preventatives.

Remember, you will need to meet with the doctor upon admission; be sure to allow yourself enough time to do so. Our doors open at 7 am. Typical admissions take approximately 15 minutes.