

Surgical Information Packet

Dear Client,

Your pet has been scheduled for a surgery in the near future. To make your experience as stress-free as possible, we have put together this packet to inform you of important information you need to know. Please carefully read all the enclosed information. If you have any questions, please feel free to call us.

Things to Know

Be prepared to drop your pet for surgery between 7:30 and 8:00am.

On the day of your pet's surgery, you will be required to sign an Authorization / Estimate form which allows you to choose optional services.

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 9:00pm.
- Water is ok.
- If you are currently administering any medications, vitamins, or injections, withhold the morning dose unless otherwise directed by the doctor.
- Be prepared to drop off your pet for surgery between 7:30 and 8:30am on the day of the procedure (Monday–Friday).

When you bring in your pet, we will go over the Authorization Form. An adult over 18 is required to sign and approve the medical procedures. After that, one of our veterinary technicians will escort your pet to the prepping area to wait for their surgery.

If any questions arise, the doctor may contact you at the number on the authorization form.

There are multiple surgeries scheduled each day and while your pet needs to be admitted by 8 am, surgery on your pet may not start until later in the morning to early afternoon. We can not guarantee which order your pet will receive surgery, but having pre-op bloodwork done prior to the day of surgery expedites the surgical process.

You are welcome to check on your pet's status, but we suggest that you allow plenty of time for the procedure(s) to be finished. The doctor or technician will call you as soon as the procedure(s) are complete to give you an update and a discharge time when you can pick up your pet. When you arrive to take your pet home, the receptionist will take care of your payment and a technician will go over all discharge orders with you verbally and provide a written copy. If you have questions or need clarification about any instructions, please do not hesitate to ask.

We hope surgery day will be a pleasant experience. Our team knows surgery can be an anxious time and we are always available to answer any and all questions concerning the procedures at hand. We look forward to serving you and your pet on the upcoming surgery day and for many years to come.

Thanks for allowing us the opportunity to take care of your beloved pet,

The Doctors and Staff of Centennial Animal Hospital

Pre-Anesthetic Blood Testing Information

At Centennial Animal Hospital, our greatest concern is for the well-being of your pet. Before we put 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. It is required for all pets over the age of 6 and those pets with pre-existing health conditions.

These tests help alert our surgeon to the presence of anemia, dehydration, diabetes, infection, kidney issues, or liver disease that could complicate the procedure. These conditions may not be detected without a Pre-Anesthetic Blood Profile, which may prevent us from applying the most appropriate and safest anesthetic regime. These tests are similar to those your own physician would run if you were to undergo anesthesia. In addition, these tests may prove useful if your pet's health changes. The results may be used as a baseline to develop faster, more accurate diagnoses and treatment.

The Pre-Anesthetic Blood Profile includes:

- CBC: PCV (Anemia), White Blood Cell Count (Infection), Red Blood Cell Count (Anemia / Bleeding Disorder), and Platelet Count (Clotting Disorder)
- Chemistry: BUN and Creatinine (Kidney function), ALKP and ALT (liver), Glucose (Sugar), Total Protein (Dehydration), and Electrolyte (Imbalance)

In addition, the Feline Patient Authorization Form also includes a FeLV/FIV test. It is required to have the test performed at least once in their lives because Feline Leukemia and Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (Feline Aids) are viruses for which no cure exists. If your pet goes outside, we recommend administering the Feline Leukemia Vaccine as well.

We realize surgery and anesthesia are scary for both the owner and patient and we attempt to make surgery day as safe and comfortable as we can for all involved. Having the blood work done prior to any surgical procedure allows us to help reduce the stress for the patient on the day of surgery and make sure we are safe to proceed with any elective procedures.

Surgical Information

Anesthetic Procedures and Risks

We use a combination of medications and injectables specifically designed around your pet's needs so we can achieve the 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 time. Additionally, a local pain block may be administered for minor growth removals or other small procedures.

For most procedures, your pet is anesthetized and then intubated (insertion of a tube into the trachea or windpipe). This ensures that your pet is able to receive oxygen at all times and prevents aspiration of any fluid into the lungs.

Anesthesia is maintained with a gas anesthetic named Isoflurane which is very safe and not metabolized by the body. This allows us to have more control over the anesthetic depth while your animal is under.

Intravenous Catheterization and Fluids We require the placement of an IV catheter and the use of IV fluids during all anesthetic procedures. This allows us to have quick, available access to the circulatory system (blood) in case of any unforeseen emergency. Fluids help provide support to the circulatory system and prevent dehydration, while also helping to speed recovery from the anesthesia.

Monitoring Patients under anesthesia are closely monitored by the doctor performing the procedure and a trained veterinary technician starting from the pre-medication phase, through the induction and the entire anesthetic procedure, to a full recovery and extubation. During all procedures, patients are continually monitored for Oxygen Saturation, Gas levels, heart rate (ECG), pulse rate, respiration, and blood pressure, and temperature-controlled warming blankets are used to help maintain thermal regulation.

It is important for you to understand that there is always a risk of anesthetic and surgical complications any time these procedures are performed. We strive to take the highest quality care of your pet and take all added precautions you allow to avoid potential problems.

Recovery Please note when you take your pet home, they have had a big day and can still be very sleepy from the anesthesia. It is not uncommon for them to take a couple of days to fully recover. They may not have an appetite the first night and that is ok. Be cautious around stairs and getting in and out of your vehicle. Make sure they are kept in a warm area as they can still have trouble fully regulating their temperature. Some patients will whimper or whine, but be sure that you are following the doctor's recommendations for pain medications. Only give what is prescribed. If your pet is not acting like him/herself within 24 hours after the surgery, please call us. If you are at all concerned with any behavior your pet is exhibiting, please do not hesitate to call us!