

SURGICAL INFORMATION AND RISKS

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 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. Anesthesia is maintained with a gas anesthetic, Isoflurane or Sevoflurane. However, with all anesthetic procedures come risks, including but not limited to cardiac arrest, decrease in blood pressure and/or heart rate, apnea, et cetera.

***Monitoring & Pain Management**

Monitoring of patients during anesthesia is done in two ways. First, a veterinary nurse is with your pet continuously from beginning of anesthesia to recovery. Second, we have a computerized monitor that records heart rate, blood pressure, oxygen levels, carbon dioxide level, 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 and after surgery. Additionally, pain medication may be prescribed for at home use. Additional instructions and information will be given at time of discharge.

***Intravenous Catheterization & Fluids**

All surgery patients will receive an IV catheter and IV fluids during anesthetic procedures, unless the doctor specifies otherwise. The IV catheter allows us to have quick, available access to the circulatory system (blood) in case of an unforeseen emergency. The IV fluids help provide support to the circulatory system and prevent dehydration, as well as aid in a quicker recovery from anesthesia.

***Potential Surgical Complications (including but not limited to the following):**

Canine and Feline Spay – bleeding, infection, urinary incontinence, weight gain, suture reactions and/or dehiscence

Canine and Feline Neuter - bleeding, infection, scrotal swelling and suture reaction and/or dehiscence

Feline Declaw – bleeding, infection, limping/lameness, swelling and/or re-growth of nail

Tumor/Lump Removal – bleeding, infection, swelling and drainage, suture reaction and/or dehiscence

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 necessary to avoid potential problems. Thank you for entrusting your pet with us.