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This guide is to assist you on the day of your pet's visit for a procedure requiring anaesthesia. If you are able to read through the following information it will ensure an efficient admission and allow us to better serve the needs of your pet.

Your pet will be required to be fasted overnight. This means no food or treats after 9pm, but access to water is fine. Admissions are between 8am and 9am.

We will need you to sign a consent form at the time of admission.

We will also need your best contact telephone number for the day of surgery in case we need to discuss your pet's procedure or have an emergency.

All forms of anaesthesia or sedation carry some risk. To reduce this we monitor all patients during & after the anaesthetic with nurses and equipment and may recommend additional precautions for some patients.

Pre anaesthetic blood tests can be performed at the surgery on the morning of the operation. We have in house veterinary blood machines that can give us results within 1 hour. We screen for liver and kidney function, diabetes, protein disorders and red cell disorders. This is more important in older pets (over 7 years of age) and sick animals but also invaluable as a screening procedure for all patients (baseline testing). We will need you to indicate at the time of admission if you would like us to do this for your pet.

We use modern anaesthetic drugs on all patients and may suggest extra precautions in sick, older, very young or thin patients (including greyhounds or similar breeds). This greatly reduces the risk for ill or older patients and results in a faster and more comfortable recovery.

Intravenous fluids (or drip) allows us to administer fluids directly into the blood stream. An intravenous drip replaces fluid and electrolytes whilst your pet is asleep. This will add to the blood volume helping to maintain blood pressure to vital organs (especially helpful in older patients or patients with known kidney or liver problems). These fluids will benefit patients who have not been eating, require teeth extractions, bowel surgery or for prolonged surgery (E.g. Orthopaedics).

Pain management is an essential element for the comfort and well being of your pet. It has also been proven to assist in quicker surgical recoveries of patients following operations. We provide pain relief before, during and after surgery.

Occasionally the need arises to carry out extra procedures while under anaesthetic. This may incur extra costs and we would always attempt to contact you for consent. If we were unable to contact you we would only act based on your pet's best interests.

Most surgery patients will go home with external stitches that will need to be removed by us in 10 days. During this time, patients must be kept confined to an area where they cannot run or jump (Not very easy sometimes!). We ask that dogs are bathed the day **before** surgery as they will not be able to be bathed or go swimming whilst their sutures are in.

All surgery patients will have a catheter placed prior to surgery to allow us quick, pain free access to their veins for medications given throughout surgery. When your pet goes home they may have a 'bandaid' on their leg that can be removed 1 hour after they get home.

Please ensure we are informed of any additional procedures you would like us to do including vaccinations, microchipping, teeth or ear cleaning and nail clipping.

For patients put under an anaesthetic, we may ask you to limit their food the night they come home from surgery. This is because some patients may feel nauseous following surgery.

Your pet may be sleepy after the anaesthesia, it is best to keep your pet warm, calm & inside to assist in their smooth recovery post surgery.

If your pet is not eating, drinking or moving normally the next morning after the anaesthesia, it is best to phone in and discuss it with one of our staff.

If you have any concerns about your pets pain management, recovery post surgery. Please don't hesitate to contact us 0266219811

