

Preparing your pet for a surgical procedure



You know that connection you have with your pet? The one where he/she is far beyond being “just a dog” or “just a cat”...? We get it, your pet is a member of your family, your best mate. That’s why, when your pet is with our team - they all receive top-notch medical care and they’re treated like they are one of our own.

What to do the night before surgery

It’s important to restrict your pet from eating after 9:00pm the night before their surgery is scheduled. You can leave their water bowl out until early the next morning (especially for those over 8years), at which time you will need to remove it.

The aim here for most pets is to have them fast for 12 hours before unless instructed otherwise by your vet.

The morning of surgery

The most important thing you can do the morning of your pet’s surgery is make sure he/she still isn’t fed anything (including treats) and water is removed early. Eating and drinking could cause your dog to aspirate during anesthesia (food entering the lungs), which is potentially life-threatening.

When you arrive

Please bring your pet down between 8-9am for all procedures, we will need you to complete an admission form to ensure all your details are up to date. This should take no longer than 15 minutes. If your pet has recently been unwell it's important you share this information with us.

If the vets or nurses have any extra questions about your pet **they will need to call you**, please make sure we have up-to-date contact numbers and your phone is readily available to take our call if required.

Bathing

Your pet will not be able to have a bath for at least 10 days after surgery, please ensure they are bathed prior to the day of surgery.

Microchipping

Microchipping is a non-invasive, safe way of identifying your pet for life, should they become lost. You can choose to have your pet microchipped during surgery at a discounted rate of just \$30.



Pre anaesthetic bloods

Our nurses will discuss the option of running blood tests on your pet prior to going under anesthesia. In the ideal world we would run routine blood tests on every anaesthetic patient to check their liver, kidney function and for any underlying unknown problems, it's especially a good idea in patients over 8 years of age.

Recovery time

Cats and Dogs have their own dedicated recovery suites to recover and wake up calmly from anesthesia. We also have smart speakers for our hospital patients that our nurses tailor tunes *on-the-daily* to suit the audience (spoilt much). So no need to worry, your pet is basically kicking it in a spa, being pampered by our team and getting their 'zen on' listening to melodic relaxation, calming and stress relief healing harmonies.

Pick up time

Our nurses will reach out to you to update you on your pet's progress and confirm arrangements for discharge once he/she has woken up from anesthetic. We would love to give an exact time however it changes daily, as a 'general rule' it would be after 12pm and before 3pm.

When you arrive, one of our nurses will run through your pet's day, the procedure they underwent, the aftercare needed (written home care instructions will also be given to you) and any medication or pain relief to take home with you (if required). We do suggest settling payment for the procedure prior to our team reuniting you with your pet as we know at this point you're dyyyyyyyyyying for a big cuddle and we think it's nice for them when they see you to be able to calmly go home to their family.

Pain relief

Good pain relief is crucial to the physical and mental recovery of your pet from surgical procedures and is provided to all pets following a surgical procedure (at no additional cost).

In some cases, we will also provide take-home medication so your pet can continue to recover comfortably at home.

Any other questions? Just ask, we're here to help.