

General Guidelines for Surgery

- Be sure to take away any food or treats 12 hours prior to the day of surgery. Water is safe to have up until the time of surgery.
- Surgery Admittance:
 - For dogs: please come to the front door of the clinic at 7:45 am the day of surgery. We will go over the release form for the surgery.
 - For cats: for Monday surgery, please come to the front door of the clinic at 7:45 am the day of surgery. For Tuesday-Friday surgery, please bring your cat the evening before surgery. We will go over the release form for the surgery.

Listed below is a description of some of the options we may suggest:

- **IV fluids:** stabilizes blood pressure, keeps patient hydrated, gives immediate access to a vein to give treatment in case of an emergency
- **Bloodwork:** We offer 3 levels of in-house blood work, depending on your pet's age, breed and any known conditions.
- **Microchip:** This rice-sized chip is implanted beneath the skin. It helps return lost pets to their owners. Animal shelters and veterinary hospitals scan found pets for microchips.
- **E-collar:** Prevents pet from licking incision.
 - Pets can also remove their own sutures. This is an emergency and requires additional surgery and expense.
 - Depending on the surgery, we may require that you purchase an e-collar. Licking the incision can cause infection.
 - If you are supplying your own e-collar, you must bring it with you the morning of surgery.
- Under anesthesia is a great time to trim nails, clean ears, pull deciduous (baby) teeth, etc. Just ask!

Your pet may have a small shaved area on his/her legs or neck where blood was taken or an IV injection was given. There may also be a bandage on one of the legs, which can be removed the evening after surgery. An IV injection of anesthesia is given to make it possible to place an endotracheal tube to provide gas anesthesia during the surgery. Anesthesia can cause nausea, so please feed your pet a small meal the evening after surgery and limit water to a modest intake.

It is very important to inspect your pet's incision daily. Please check for any discharge, swelling, or redness. Please keep your pet as quiet as possible for 7 -10 days after surgery. This will help reduce the chance of complications. Unless otherwise noted, your pet's incision will have sutures to be removed. This involves a quick visit back to the clinic. Please let the receptionist know your pet is here for suture removal.

Thank you for choosing Docton Animal Clinic for your pet's surgery needs.