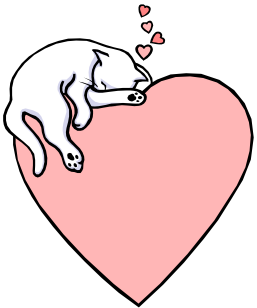


concerns

All of our patients undergoing general anesthesia are monitored during surgery or dentistry with an EKG and a pulse oximeter (a device to measure blood oxygenation). We have blood pressure monitoring equipment as well. All patients are kept warm during and after their procedures, and are not returned to the ward until they appear to be recovering routinely! Most patients are intubated at the time of surgery, unless an injectable anesthetic is chosen, and always for a dentistry, which protects their airway and allows us to regulate their depth of anesthesia.



I might cough mildly after I have had a tube in my throat after surgery!



Lillington Veterinary Hospital

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**Lillington
Veterinary Hospital**

Guide to Surgery Admission

**Partners in
pet health**

Tel: 910-893-2081



Appointments

Please call in advance to schedule a surgical appointment if this is possible. We perform surgery and dentistry Monday through Friday. We do limit appointments at holidays in order to allow your pet to return home promptly after the procedure.

We encourage you to review the surgical procedure with a doctor, especially if the surgery is not a routine one. This way we can listen to your concerns and prepare our patient pre-operatively as we deem necessary. For instance, some animals require antibiotics prior to a dentistry if periodontal disease is present, or a senior patient may need more extensive lab work than is routine.

Animals admitted for dentistry generally are discharged in the afternoon of the same day. We do hospitalize all spays (ovariohysterectomies) and dog neuters overnight. This minimizes movement and discomfort immediately post-operatively and allows timely evaluation the next day. We do not have nurses present all night long, so this is something you may discuss in more detail with the staff if you feel uncomfortable with this. Cats that are neutered are usually recovered

enough to go home the day of surgery. Any patient discharged after surgery should still be confined and watched carefully for 24-48 hours post-operatively.



**I just had surgery!
Please don't let me get
wet or cold or dirty un-
til I am better.**

After scheduling the appointment

Make sure you are informed of the arrival time, generally between 7:30 and 8:30am on the morning of surgery. Follow instructions for fasting prior to arrival. Usually no food past 10pm the night before, although water is allowed. No "Big Gulps" right before you come! Bring any necessary paperwork, such as previous records, pertinent lab data or precautions. Let us know if your pet has any allergies or if they have had prolonged recovery from anesthesia in the past. Check with the receptionist for departure time, usually after 10am of the following day for an overnight stay. This allows the doctor to re-evaluate a patient and the office to complete billing.



Arrive prepared to go over and sign some documents. We require a signature on a surgical consent form, which states that you agree to the procedures, and that you will be responsible for charges. The release is actually at the bottom of an *estimate* of charges. The estimate is what we expect the costs to be. Please understand that circumstances can arise which alter the estimated charges. We attempt to keep clients informed of changes in the estimate when we foresee differences.

It is critical that you provide an **emergency phone number or contact**.

Almost every procedure we do that affects the health and well being of your pet carries with it some element of risk. We minimize these risks by selecting our protocols and procedures carefully and by working in partnership with you in obtaining informed consent after reviewing the options for treatment and explaining the benefits vs. the risks of each procedure.



We take pride in our facility. We make every effort to ensure each procedure has a successful outcome.

We do meet or exceed all guidelines for standards of veterinary care in the operating room as generally accepted in practice and as established by the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Board, but our primary focus is on patient health and comfort. To that end we give patient caretakers many options as to the level of care they wish to seek for their pet. This includes the level of preoperative evaluation owners wish to pursue, and the degree of post-operative analgesia their pet receives. All surgical candidates receive pain medication (included in the cost of the procedure), but owner's may opt for additional medication as required. We don't believe you take your pets procedure for granted-and neither do we!

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