



EXPLANATION OF HEALTHCARE PROCEDURES



Pre-anesthetic Blood Screening (Profiles 1 or 2 based on age of pet)

Before we perform any procedure requiring anesthesia, we run tests to confirm that your pet's organs are functioning properly and to reveal any hidden health conditions that could put your pet at risk. If preanesthetic results are within normal ranges, we can proceed knowing that anesthetic risk is minimized. If results are not within the normal range, we can alter the anesthetic procedure, or take other precautions to safeguard your pet's health and reduce the risk of potential complications.

Heartworm Testing

Knowing if your dog has heartworms is very important. The adult worms live in the dog's heart and interfere with proper blood circulation and possibly breathing, resulting in an increased anesthetic risk.

Combo Feline Leukemia/FIV Testing

Knowing your cat's FeLV/FIV status is important as part of a total healthcare program. These diseases can predispose your cat to other illnesses, are contagious to other cats, and are eventually fatal.

Intravenous Catheterization and Fluid Administration

We place an IV catheter into a vein in your pet's leg. This allows us vascular access in which to administer the anesthetics and emergency drugs in case of complications. Fluid administration during anesthesia and the procedure helps to maintain adequate blood pressure and tissue perfusion so your pet can metabolize the anesthetic better.

Pain Medication

Like you and I, your pet feels pain associated with any surgical procedure. We take a proactive approach to pain relief and will dispense medications to help diminish discomfort that your pet will feel after the procedure. We do not recommend over the counter pain medication.

Screening for Hip Dysplasia/Hip Joint Conformation

While we associate hip problem with medium to large breed dogs, smaller breeds have their share of hip problems too. This is a great opportunity for us to take a radiograph of any dog's hips and look for potential problems. If we find any problems we can take a proactive approach to try and slow down the progression of future disease.

Oravet Application

This is used in dental procedures only. After cleaning the teeth, we apply a product that electrostatically bonds to the tooth and helps to prevent tartar from accumulating. The owner re-applies the product once weekly at home to maintain the barrier, create healthier teeth and gums, and to hopefully decrease the number of professional cleanings that are needed. The owner needs to be able to handle the pet's mouth in order for this to be successful.

Microchipping

This is optional but is a very important procedure to consider for your pet. It acts as a permanent form of identification in case your pet is lost or stolen. It is quite easily and painlessly done while your pet is under anesthesia. It does require registration after the procedure and the number is stored in a national database.

Tissue Analysis (Histopathology, Cytology, Urinalysis, Stone analysis, Bone Marrow, etc.)

These tests analyze tissues or samples taken from your pet during a specific surgery or procedure. Results of these tests help us to formulate, tailor, and manage your pet's health care plan. For example: we need to know if a tumor removed from your pet is cancerous or not, helping us to determine any necessary follow-up care.