

Windsor Animal Hospital

HOME CARE FOR THE PREANESTHETIC - PRESURGICAL PATIENT

- 1) The evening before your pet's anesthesia, withhold food after 6:00 PM. Pick up your pet's waterbowl at 10:00 PM. No food or water in the morning!
- 2) If your pet does accidentally eat something, be sure to tell us. If your pet is on medication, ask the nurse whether or not it is to be given.
- 3) Before coming into the hospital in the morning, take your pet for a walk or let them out into the yard for their usual bathroom routine. Do not let them eat grass, etc. Exception: If your pet is to have a urinalysis or fecal analysis, do not let them go outside before coming to the hospital. Tell the nurse admitting your pet if urine or feces are to be collected.
- 4) Admission to the hospital should be 8:00 - 8:30 on the morning of your pet's anesthesia.
- 5) The doctor or a nurse will call you after the anesthesia, dentistry and/or surgery is finished.
- 4) You may call to check on your pet after 3:00 PM. Depending on what the doctor feels is best for the patient, your pet may be released the same day or may be hospitalized overnight.
- 5) If your pet is a Doberman, Golden Retriever, or Corgi, the doctors may suggest presurgical clotting tests (VWD, Thyroid, ACT, Cuticular Bleeding Time).
- 6) It is recommended that all patients, but especially middle age and older pets have a preliminary blood panel to assess organ function, and IV fluids for blood pressure support during any anesthetic/surgical procedure. The doctors will discuss this with you.

Your appointment is: _____

HOME CARE FOR THE POSTANESTHESIA - POSTSURGERY PATIENT

- 1) During your pet's convalescence they will need special care. Watch them carefully.
- 2) Upon discharge from the hospital, your pet should not have any food the same day of anesthesia. Restrict their water intake to small amounts offered frequently (once per hour or every two hours). The next day your pet can resume their normal feeding/water.
- 3) Do not allow your pet to lick or scratch the surgical incision. Please take note of how the surgery site looks when you pick up your pet from the hospital. Count the number of sutures and recheck them daily. If your pet begins to lick or scratch their incision, wrap the area (using a handkerchief, dish towel, T-shirt, sock, etc.) and call *Windsor Animal Hospital*. We have several methods of deterring them from damaging their surgery sites.
- 4) Restrict exercise on all surgical patients for the first 3-5 days, or longer if recommended by the doctor. **NO RUNNING, NO JUMPING, and NO STAIRS!**
- 5) The effects of sedatives and anesthetics in your pet can last for a few hours to a few days. Variations occur due to age, obesity, and metabolism - just as in humans. If your pet seems sleepy or disoriented, protect them from falling off furniture, down stairs, into pools, water bowls, etc. Be sure to keep your pet in a quiet location, away from children, noise, and activity. They should be kept warm and well observed but undisturbed until they resume normal activity.
- 6) If a problem develops or you have any questions, please call *Windsor Animal Hospital* at 838-3031, or after hours leave a message and we will call you back the next morning. Report immediately anything that does not seem normal, for example: pus, bleeding, swelling, tenderness, lethargy, poor appetite, etc.

Your (no charge) postsurgical recheck appointment is: _____

Your (no charge) suture removal appointment is: _____