

## SURGICAL INFORMATION PACKET

Dear Client,

Your pet has been scheduled for an upcoming surgery in the near future. In our attempt to assist clients, we have put together this packet to make surgery day as easy and stress-free as possible.

In addition to this letter, you will find that the following information has been enclosed:

1. Pre-Anesthetic Blood Testing Information Form
2. Surgical Information Sheet
3. Hospitalization release & Pre-surgical testing checklist sheet (**Bring in Day of Surgery**)

Please read carefully all the enclosed information. If you have any questions, please feel free to call us at 610-967-7387.

On your pets' surgery day, we require you to review and sign a hospitalization release & pre-surgical testing checklist sheet which also allows you to choose optional services.

We require a phone number(s) where you can be reached surgery day.

**Failure to be reached on the day of the procedure may result in postponement of the surgery.**

Unless instructed otherwise, the night before your pet's surgery...

- **Withhold all food and treats after 9:00pm.**
- **Water may be left down after this time period until midnight.**
- **If you are currently administering any medications, vitamins and/or injections, Withhold the morning doses unless otherwise instructed by the doctor.**

Please make arrangements for your pet to be dropped off on the morning of scheduled surgery, unless other arrangements have been made in advance. At time of drop off, our team will be happy to answer any questions/concerns and collect the enclosed/completed Hospitalization release & Pre-surgical testing form.

Our veterinary nurse will escort your pet to the surgical prepping area to wait for their surgery. If you have elected any of the recommended blood tests, our nurse will collect all blood samples and tests prior to surgery.

If any questions arise, the doctor may contact you at the number on the Authorization Form.

You are welcome to check up on your pet's status, however, we request that you allow plenty of time for your pet's procedure to be done. At this time, we will be able to give you an idea when your pet may be discharged. When you arrive to take your pet home, the receptionist will bill you out and the veterinary nurse will go over all discharge orders verbally and give you a written copy. If you do not understand any instructions, please do not hesitate to ask them to go over them one more time.

We hope surgery day will be a pleasant experience. Remember, **our team knows surgery can be an anxious time and we are always available to answer any and all questions concerning the upcoming procedure.**

We look forward to serving you and your pet on the upcoming surgery day and in the years to come.

## PRE-ANESTHETIC BLOOD TESTING INFORMATION FORM

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY.

Our greatest concern is the well-being of your pet. Before putting your pet under anesthesia, we routinely perform a full physical examination.

We also highly recommend and sometimes require that a **Pre-Anesthetic Blood Profile** be performed on all pets undergoing anesthesia to maximize patient safety.

The **Pre-Anesthetic Blood Profile** helps alert our surgeon to the presence of dehydration, anemia, diabetes and/or kidney or liver disease that could complicate the procedure. These conditions may not be detected **without** a pre-anesthetic profile thus not allowing for the most appropriate and safest anesthetic regime to be administered. These tests are similar to those your own physician would run if you were to undergo anesthesia. In addition, these tests may be useful if your pet's health changes to develop faster, more accurate diagnoses and treatments.

*\*State of the art equipment enables us to perform the pre-anesthetic blood profile at our hospital and we are committed to making this technology available to our patients as it is needed on short notice.*

The **Pre-surgical Testing Form** you will sign on your pet's surgery date will offer the following pre-anesthetic testing option:

1. We often prefer to have pre-anesthetic testing done prior to the day of anesthesia (from one day up to about a month) as we can offer a very extensive biochemical/endocrine profile and complete blood count through an outside reference laboratory for a very similar cost to our in-office blood testing.
2. The in-office **PCV** and **Pre-Anesthetic Profile** which includes: **PCV** (Anemia), **Chemistry Profile**: BUN and Creatinine (Kidney), ALKP and ALT (Liver), Glucose (Sugar), and Total Protein (Dehydration).
3. If the patients are in their senior years (above 6-7 years old), are sick, or if the owner has increased concerns about anesthesia for their pet, the FULL Complete Blood Count and Chemistry Profile can be done the day of the procedure at the owner's request.
4. A pre-anesthetic electrocardiogram is offered. This measures the electrical function of the heart and screens for arrhythmias and some types of other heart disease.
5. Owner Elects to Decline the recommended pre-anesthetic tests at this time but requests that we proceed with the procedure.

We realize surgery and anesthesia are scary for both the owner and patient and we attempt to make surgery day as safe and comfortable for all involved. The physical examination and testing done prior to any surgical procedure allows us to best minimize anesthetic and surgical risks and maximize patient safety.

If you have **any questions or hesitations** about the scheduled procedure, please do not hesitate to call us at 610-967-7387 to discuss any aspect of the upcoming procedure.

## SURGICAL INFORMATION FORM

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY.

### **Anesthetic Procedures & Risks**

We use a combination of pre-anesthetic medications/injectable and/or inhalant anesthetics to achieve optimum levels of anesthesia that are safe for your pet.

**For very short procedures**, an injectable anesthetic is given alone that produces a good plane of surgical anesthesia with a quick recovery.

**For some select short and minimally invasive procedures**, an injectable and reversible sedative may be given which allows for rapid recovery. This technique may often be combined with a local anesthetic agent for some procedures.

**For most procedures**, your pet is anesthetized and then intubated (insertion of a tube into the trachea or wind pipe). This will ensure that your pet is able to receive oxygen at all times and prevents aspiration of any fluids into the lungs.

**Monitoring & Pain Management**-Monitoring of patients during anesthesia is done in two ways.

First, a veterinary nurse is with your pet continuously from beginning of anesthesia to recovery.

Second, we have a monitor that records pulse rate and oxygen levels. For many patients we also elect to monitor blood pressure and an EKG throughout anesthesia.

Our clinic strongly believes in compassionate, quality, medical care for our patients.

As a result, all surgery patients will receive pain management before, during and after surgery. Additionally, pain medication may be prescribed home. Additional information will be given at discharge. We hope this program will reduce any discomfort experienced and aid in a quicker recovery.

### **Intravenous Catheterization & Fluids**

We highly recommend the placement of an IV catheter and use of IV fluids during anesthetic procedures. This allows us to have quick, available access to the circulatory system (blood) in case of an unforeseen emergency. The fluids help provide support to the circulatory system and prevent dehydration, as well as aid in a quicker recovery from anesthesia.

### **Potential Surgical Complications**

#### **1. Canine and Feline Ovariohysterectomy (spay)**

Bleeding; Suture Reactions; Infection; Weight Gain; Urinary Incontinence

#### **2. Canine and Feline Castration (neuter)**

Bleeding; Suture Reactions (Canine Only); Infection; Weight Gain; Testicular Swelling

#### **3. Feline Declaw**

Bleeding; Infection; Limping/Lameness

#### **4. Tumor/Lump Removal**

Bleeding; Suture Reaction; Infection; Swelling and Drainage

**It is important for you to understand that there is always a risk of anesthetic and surgical complications anytime these procedures are performed. We strive to take the highest quality care of your pet and take all the added precautions you allow to avoid potential problems. Thank you for entrusting your pet to us.**

Pet's Weight \_\_\_\_\_ lbs.     Owner will call re: TGH     Wants Post Op Call     Call when Ready TGH    Initials \_\_\_\_\_

**Hospitalization Release Form**

I hereby consent and authorize the doctors and staff of Alburtis Animal Hospital to receive, prescribe for, treat, or perform surgery on \_\_\_\_\_. Anticipated procedures are as follows:

Blood Tests     X-rays     Surgery ( \_\_\_\_\_ )  
 Fluids     Other( \_\_\_\_\_ )

The procedure(s) have been discussed with me, and I do understand that if anesthesia is involved, there are associated risks. No guarantee has been made regarding the final outcome or cure.

I understand that I am accepting full responsibility for all fees, and that **payment must be made in full** when my pet is released from the hospital. ( I have chosen the following method of payment:)

Cash     Check     Visa     Mastercard     Pet Insurance  
Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

I can be reached today at this phone number: (Work / Home) \_\_\_\_\_ Until \_\_\_\_\_. If I cannot be reached while my pet is under anesthesia, I permit the doctors and staff to perform necessary procedures which may have been unforeseen at the time of admission.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Pre-Surgical Testing**

**Anesthetic risk reduction:** To minimize unforeseen problems:

- We urge at least a **Pre-anesthetic chemistry & PCV** pre-op blood test for any pet (\$42)
- We **insist on at least** a **Pre-anesthetic chemistry & PCV** on pets that have reached 5 years of age (\$42)
- We can best predict risk with a **COMPLETE BLOOD COUNT** and **FULL CHEMISTRY PROFILE** (\$78)
- We urge an electrocardiogram (**EKG**) to discover hidden heart problems (\$15)

These fees *may not have been included* in the estimate previously given to you for today's procedure, because not everyone wishes to pay for such risk reduction. Please read carefully and choose one of the options below:

- \_\_\_\_\_ ALREADY DONE (the minimum, or other fuller) tests have already been run.
- \_\_\_\_\_ YES, please run the **minimum** pre-anesthetic blood tests. (\$42)
- \_\_\_\_\_ YES, please run the **COMPLETE BLOOD COUNT (CBC) and FULL CHEMISTRY PROFILE** (\$78)
- \_\_\_\_\_ YES, please run the **EKG**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **NO, I assume anesthetic risk for my pet.**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_