

## Lineberger Veterinary Hospital Surgery Instructions

\*Attached is the surgery consent form. Please complete and return the day of surgery.

### All Surgeries

Please take away your pet's food and water at 8:00 p.m. the night before his or her procedure.

All surgeries are performed before 3:00 p.m. depending on surgery load, appointment schedule, and emergencies. We encourage owners to wait until after 3:00 p.m. to call and check on their pet.

Please protect your pet when leaving the hospital by using either a leash or a carrier. Excessive activity may result in your pet getting loose or result in injury if your pet is recovering from surgery. Do not allow your pet to become overly active and excited when you pick up him/her from the hospital.

With the excitement of returning home after surgery, your pet may be inclined to drink and eat excessively, which may likely result in vomiting. To avoid this, we recommend restricting access to water for an hour or so until your pet has quieted down. Then, allow only small amounts for the first 8 hours. Normal feeding may resume the next day.

Many patients may not have a bowel movement for 24 to 36 hours after surgery. This is normal.

Patients recovering from surgery or illness should have limited exercise. Avoid access to stairs or situations that may lead to injury. Due to the affects of anesthesia, he/she may be groggy for 12 hours.

### Cat/Dog Spay and Dog Neuter

Discourage your pet from licking or chewing at the sutures. Your pet should not have a bath nor get the suture site wet until it is healed. Please check the incision daily for any swelling, redness, or discharge. If they appear irritated or infected, notify us immediately. Sutures should be removed in 10-14 days from the date of surgery. You do not need an appointment to come back for this and there is no charge for this procedure.

### Declaw

Some cats may show some discomfort for 1-2 weeks. To help prevent infection caused by the dust in regular kitty litter, please use shredded newspaper or Yesterday's News for 10 days. Check the paws daily for bleeding, swelling or discharge. If this occurs, please call the clinic. The sutures will dissolve within six weeks therefore you will not need to come back for removal.

### Overnight Stay

It is imperative for your pet's safety to spend the night in our hospital the day of surgery. Upon waking up from the anesthesia your pet will be very groggy. Patients should be confined in order to avoid injury. It is also necessary for your net to stay overnight in order for Dr. Lineberger to evaluate your pet prior to their discharge from the hospital.

## Physical, Vaccines, and Heartworm Test

All patients checked into the hospital must be current on their vaccinations and heartworm prevention. We require a copy of the medical records if these services were not performed at our hospital. It is necessary to perform a physical examination if not previously done at Lineberger Veterinary Hospital to indicate any underlying health problems. If vaccines or heartworm prevention have not been kept current it is necessary for us to update them at the owner's expense. We will give the necessary physical exam, vaccines, and heartworm test at the same visit when you drop them off.

## IV Catheter

It is hospital policy to place an IV Catheter in any pet over 7 years of age during a Spay or Neuter surgery. Geriatric patients particularly may need IV fluids or emergency IV medications during surgery. There is an additional charge of \$24.00 the owner will be responsible for at the time the pet is picked up. The IV Catheter is required for pets 7 years of age or over. It is optional but recommended for cats or dogs under 7 years of age.

## Pre-anesthetic Panel

Advances in anesthesia and surgery have made routine procedures relatively safe with a low rate of complications. Nevertheless, occasional problems can arise due to pre-existing conditions not evident during routine pre-anesthetic examinations. To avoid these problems, we recommend that all of these cases be screened prior to anesthesia by means of the following laboratory tests.

### Pre-anesthetic panel:

Includes:      BUN (Kidney)                      ALKP (liver)  
                    Glucose (blood sugar) Total Protein (hydration)  
                    ALT (liver)                              Creatinine (Kidney)  
                    CBC (complete blood count)

Cost \$63.00

### Preoperative Electrocardiogram (ECG):

It is our policy to auscultate (listen to) the heart of every pet prior to anesthesia. However, there are circumstances where a pet's heart may be abnormal without showing abnormal sounds. An ECG can help detect heart disease that is not apparent on physical exam. Silent heart disease has the potential to cause problems while your pet is anesthetized. An optional ECG is one more tool to help our doctors determine if your pet has a higher anesthetic risk. Approximate additional cost for your pet is \$40.00 if you choose to have it done.

## Pain Medication

All surgeries/procedures do not warrant the administration of pain medicine, however, as you know, all patients' pain levels differ. Pain medication is available for you to give to your pet at home if you feel that it would be beneficial. The estimated cost of the medicine is \$25.00 - \$30.00 (depending on breed and weight range).

## One-Time Laser Session

Our FDA approved Class IV Therapy Laser helps promote faster healing by deeply penetrating the tissue without damaging it. Laser therapy has been scientifically proven to be successful in treating post-surgical pain. Inflammation and bacteria are significantly reduced without any side effects with the laser session. Owner's can elect for their pet to receive the optional one-time Laser Session at the cost of \$20.00.

**\*LINEBERGER VETERINARY HOSPITAL IS A FLEA FREE FACILITY\***