



Preparing for Your Pet's Surgery

Pre-Admission Instructions

Do not feed your pet after midnight on the evening before admission to the hospital. Water is allowed and encouraged until you leave for the hospital. If your pet is currently taking any medications check with your doctor as adjustments in dosages may need to be made on the day of admission. This is especially true for patients with diabetes or Addison's disease.

Hospital Admission

Admissions are made between 7:30 AM & 8 AM. One of our health care team members will schedule a time with you for your pet's procedure check in. Your cooperation is essential during the admission in providing pertinent information about your pet's health and answering any questions the health care team may have about your pet's current illness.

The health care team will advise you of any diagnostic procedures and recommended therapy, as well as estimated fees associated with these recommendations.

You will be asked to sign an authorization and/or estimate form which will allow our doctors to proceed with the prescribed diagnostic/surgical/medical services. In some cases, a deposit for the estimated fees will be requested. Please allow at least 15 minutes for paper work completion and check in.

Contact Information

The doctor may need to contact you during the day with diagnostic information, post-operative information or changes in health status. It is imperative that you leave a phone number where you may immediately be contacted. If your pet has been admitted for a same day surgery or medical procedure, please call at 2 pm to check on your pet's progress and to schedule a discharge time.

Anesthesia and Surgery

Anesthesia for surgical procedures is administered by our surgical team, using equipment and techniques to provide your pet with the safest anesthesia possible.

During surgery, your pet's heart rate and rhythm, respiratory rate, oxygen saturation, and other vital functions are continually monitored by our state of the art electronic anesthesia monitoring device. In addition, your pet is monitored by our surgery technician before, during and after his/her procedure.

Often gas anesthesia is administered through a tube that is inserted into the pet's trachea. Occasionally, after this tube is removed, your pet may have a slight throat irritation, resulting in a dry cough lasting a short time (1-2 days).

Whether minor or major surgery, the preparation and surgical procedures performed at AngelCare Veterinary Hospital meet the high standards of quality care established by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

Discharge from the Hospital

When you arrive to pick up your pet, a member of our health care team will speak with you about your pet's procedure and explain how to care for your pet during the post-op recovery period. You will then be directed to our front desk to settle your account and schedule your pet's recheck appointment. We will be happy to assist you in getting your pet to your car.

At Home

Proper rest, adequate confinement and supervised feedings will shorten the needed convalescent period. If you believe any complications are occurring, please contact the hospital immediately. Should you have any concerns, don't spend time worrying; call and speak with one of our health care team member. Hickory Emergency Clinic at (828)328-1100 and Carolina Veterinary Specialist at (704)949-1000, are fully staffed 24 hours a day and can care for your pet if our office is close.

Thank you for entrusting your pet's care to AngelCare Veterinary Hospital.

We are honored to be allowed to care for your special family member.