

Routine Pre-Operative Information for Your Dog

Food

You will need to **remove** any food **from 8pm** the evening before surgery. If your dog is <u>under</u> 6 months of age, it should be fed its evening **meal between 10pm - Midnight.**

Water

You can leave water down overnight.

Toileting

Please allow your pet time to go to the toilet before they are admitted for surgery.

Admission Time:

We admit our patients at **7:30am**. Please arrive promptly at the practice and let us know of delays. The admitting nurse will talk you through the procedure and do a quick heart and respiration rate and temperature check to ensure that we can proceed with surgery.

Surgery Day:

Our operations start at 8am and take place throughout the day. The vet will plan as to what order they would like to do their surgeries in. We will aim to keep you updated throughout the day via text message, where possible and aim to **call you before 5pm** to discuss a discharge time. We aim to have all our patients booked in to be **discharged between 3pm – 6pm.**

Post-Operative Care:

After surgery, your dog may require a buster collar or a medical pet shirt*. You can inform the admitting nurse of which you would like (not applicable for dentals).

You can offer your dog small amounts of water when you get home and food can be offered a few hours later. We will send your dog home with a suitable recovery diet. It can be common for your dog to not have any bowel movements for up to 36 hours after their surgery, but **they should continue to urinate as normal.**

You will also need to **restrict running**, **jumping**, **and climbing stairs for the next 10 days** at least. This is to allow them to recover from their anaesthetic and surgery. **Male dogs** can still impregnate females for **up to 6 weeks following castration**, so we advise keeping them separate during this time (**not applicable for dentals**).





What is general anaesthesia?

General anaesthesia involves medications which cause the loss of consciousness, combined with muscle relaxation and pain relief allowing your pet to undergo surgical procedures.

What are the risks during the anaesthetic?

The most common <u>temporary</u> risks include low body temperature, low blood pressure, and decrease in heart and respiration rate. In severe cases, risks include regurgitation, aspiration pneumonia, anaphylactic reactions, and death.

How do we make anaesthetics safe?

One of the first things we can carry out to make sure your pet is healthy is pre anaesthetic blood tests. This will indicate any abnormalities – particularly with the liver and kidneys.

We then carry out pre-operative checks on all our patients to make sure their vitals, including temperature, pulse, and respiration, are within a normal range.

We firstly administer a pre-medication, which is a combination of a pain relief and sedative drug, which makes them feel very sleepy.

Once relaxed, we place an IV catheter, which allows access to your pet's vein for further deliverance of medications, as well as fluids if required. An induction agent (a drug which will make your pet completely fall asleep) is then administered.

An endotracheal tube will then be placed, which provides oxygen and anaesthetic gases to keep your pet asleep for the duration of the procedure. This also means we can ventilate your pet in emergency situations.

Throughout, all patients are linked up to our multi-parameter machine, which monitors oxygenation levels, heart rhythms, CO₂ output levels, blood pressure and temperature. A dedicated theatre nurse will be by also be monitoring vitals throughout, ensuring maximum care is delivered.

What happens after general anaesthesia?

Your pets will be taken into recovery, where a dedicated care assistant or veterinary nurse regularly monitors your pet's vitals, to ensure their recovery is smooth and they return to full consciousness well.





Thank you for choosing Warren House Vets for your pet's care. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us:

Telephone: 01543 373033

WhatsApp: 07999048536.

Facebook: Warren House Veterinary Centre Ltd

<u>Post-Operative Out-of-Hours Support</u>



If you have any concerns following your pet's surgery, we offer free out-of-hours veterinary advice support with a UK Registered Vet, over the phone, as a part of our VIP Club.

To sign up please email: lnfo@warrenhousevets.co.uk

Emergency Out-of-hours Support



Willows Veterinary Centre and Referral Service Ltd Highlands Road, Shirley, Solihull, B90 4NH 0121 712 7070

Thank you!

