

PRE-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

The following is a guide to help you prepare for your pet's operation, please read through this carefully. If you have any further questions please contact the surgery during office hours for advice.

It is important that your pet has an empty stomach when undergoing a general anaesthesia or sedation.

Please do not give any food after 7pm the evening before the scheduled operation. Water should be made available until 8am on the morning of the operation.

Cats must be kept inside overnight with a litter tray. Dogs should be walked prior to admission to allow them to go to the toilet. Please arrive on time for your admission appointment and please telephone the surgery if you may be late.

One of our vets or nurses will check over and admit your pet. Please make the vet or nurse aware of any changes to your pets' symptoms or behaviour which may have occurred since your last consultation, or any medication they have had within the last 4 weeks. If your pet is of an older age, your Veterinary Surgeon may discuss the possibility of pre-operative blood tests with you. Such tests can help inform us of potential kidney and liver problems common in older pets and enable us to provide further supportive treatment, if necessary.

You will be asked to sign a consent form and will be given a time to telephone the surgery for a progress report. Please ensure at this time that we have the most appropriate contact number for you. If your pet is inclined to be aggressive or nervous, please let us know before the day of the operation so that appropriate measures can be taken.

Anaesthesia

With modern anaesthetic drugs and a trained veterinary nurse constantly monitoring your pet from admission to discharge, general anaesthesia carries a low risk, and appropriate action will be taken if any problems are suspected. After premedication, anaesthesia is generally administered by use of an intravenous injection. A small patch of hair may be clipped on the front leg where the injection is given, a tube is passed down the windpipe to allow breathing and to control the rate of the gaseous anaesthetic used to maintain anaesthesia. The area around the operation site will be clipped to allow thorough aseptic cleaning.

Payment

Our payment terms are payment at the time of treatment. Although many insurance companies offer the ability to direct claim, this does incur a significant cost to the practice. We do not wish to pass on these costs to our clients, therefore we have made the decision to not routinely process direct claims. If you cannot afford treatment and your pet is insured, please make us aware prior to treatment being undertaken.

Overnight Care

If your pet requires post operative overnight care, a registered veterinary nurse will be at our Abergavenny site 24 hours a day, Monday-Friday, providing continued overnight care to patients. Patients requiring overnight care from our other branches will be identified by the veterinary surgeon during an initial consultation, and in most cases the client will be requested to take their pet to our Abergavenny site for this ongoing care. The level of care and frequency of checks will be discussed with the veterinary surgeon in charge of the case.