

## Pre-Anesthetic Work-Up?

Dear Pet Owner,

As you know, Your pet is scheduled for a procedure that will require anesthesia. We are looking forward to providing your pet with the best possible care. To provide that care, we recommend pre-anesthetic testing prior to placing your pet under anesthesia.

You trust us to care for your pet, and our first concern will always be your pet's health. Before placing him/her under anesthesia, we will perform a routine physical examination to look for any existing medical conditions that might complicate the procedure or compromise your pet's health.

As in human medicine, while a physical exam is important, it cannot provide a comprehensive picture of a pet's physical condition. Consequently, we recommend pre-anesthetic testing. The pre-anesthetic testing provides insight as to what is occurring internally. This testing could uncover health concerns that cannot be detected from a physical exam alone.

At our hospital we don't believe in taking risks with your pet's health. We perform pre-anesthetic testing for companion animals for the same reasons your doctor would run tests on you before you underwent anesthesia. In fact, the tests are quite similar. While these tests do not guarantee the absence of complications, they do minimize the possibilities of complications during and after anesthesia.

In providing for the best possible care for your pet, we also recommend the placement of an intravenous catheter and the administration of intravenous fluids during anesthesia. These two procedures are critically important in maintaining your pet's blood pressure during the anesthetic procedure when your pet's blood pressure drops far below the normal levels. These two procedures are even more important in elderly and compromised patients. The intravenous catheter also provides an access for the administration of medications in an uncommon, unforeseen complication. Our goal is to provide you and your family with the peace of mind you expect and deserve.

Please look over the pre-anesthetic form. If you have any questions regarding any of the information you have just read, feel free to ask. Once you have made your decision, please sign the pre-anesthetic consent form to authorize or decline the recommendations.

While the choice is yours, we feel strongly that the pre-anesthetic profile is very important to your pet's health. We encourage you to authorize us to perform the recommended tests and support procedure. We are here to assist you and take good care of you and your pet.

Timothy L. Metzger, D.V.M.

