

Cheyenne West Animal Hospital Pre-Surgical Instructions
(702) 395-1800

Thank you for entrusting us with your pet's anesthetic procedure. We know that clients can experience anxiety regarding their pet's surgical procedure. We want you to know that we appreciate your concern and we promise to care for your pet as if it were our own.

The Day Before Surgery

Your pet should not have any food after midnight the night before surgery. It is perfectly fine to allow your pet to have water up until the time you leave for our hospital.



The Morning of Surgery

All surgical and dental procedures are checked in for their procedure between eight and nine o'clock in the morning. During check-in, you will be asked to sign an anesthetic release form. A surgical nurse will bring you and your pet into an exam room and take your pet's temperature, pulse, and respiration readings. Your pet will be examined by the veterinarian. This gives you a chance to speak to the doctor so we can answer any questions you may have.

Surgery

If your pet has not come to the hospital prior to surgery for pre-anesthetic blood testing to ensure your four-legged family member is a good surgical candidate, we will perform this test at this time. The doctor organizes his/her surgical procedures in the most efficient way possible. In some cases, your pet may remain most of the day before the doctor begins the procedure. This is not uncommon. Rest assured, your pet is comfortable in our care. An IV catheter will be placed and we will start IV fluids. Therefore, you need not worry that your pet has not had access to food or water the day of surgery.



Once the IV catheter is placed we will prepare your pet for surgery. Most pets receive a single injection of several drugs given together for the purpose of sedation and pain control. Following the injection, your pet will be given a quick-acting, intravenous drug to induce anesthesia. Your pet will be intubated (Endotracheal intubation is the placement of a tube into the trachea (windpipe) in order to maintain an open airway in patients who are unconscious or unable to breathe on their own. Oxygen and anesthetics can be delivered through the tube). Our gas anesthetics include isoflurane and sevoflurane. These anesthetics are the same ones used in human hospitals.

Most procedures require that we clip your pet's hair. Sometimes we may have to clip a substantial area since it is very important that the area is aseptic to prevent infections.

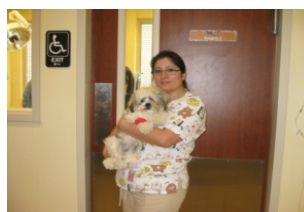


During the surgical procedure, your pet is placed on several monitors to continually monitor heart rate, ECG, blood pressure, oxygen saturation and respirations. Our surgical table is heated in order to maintain your pet's body temperature. For dental procedures, we use a heated mat and a hot air blanket. A surgical nurse is with your pet the entire time monitoring these important vital signs.

Following Surgery

A surgical nurse will stay with your pet until the endotracheal tube can be removed and your pet is resting comfortably. The staff will let you know when the procedure is completed, and, based on your pet's required recovery time, when your pet can return home. Until you hear from us, please plan on picking up your pet between four and six o'clock in the evening. If anything arises where our staff would need to get in touch with you, we will call the number(s) that you have provided us with at surgical check-in.

Therefore, please ensure that we have the correct contact information for you. You are also welcome to call us at any time to check on your pet.



Releasing Patients

Cheyenne West Animal Hospital releases most pets on the same day of their surgical or dental procedures. Cats being declawed will spend the night.

When you come to pick up your pet, our nurses are informed of your arrival and will gather your pet's medications, remove the IV catheter, and have the doctor examine your pet again prior to release. During the release, our nurse will answer any questions you may have as well as provide you with post-surgical instructions. Expect this process to take between fifteen to twenty minutes. We haven't forgotten you or your pet! Please keep in mind while you are waiting that we are a hospital and we cannot predict when emergencies will occur. We thank you for your patience when they do; it may take a few minutes to assist you and release your pet. Our goal is to get your pet home as soon as possible.

Thank you

If you have any questions not answered by this information sheet, we will be more than happy to assist you. We are honored that you have chosen the Cheyenne West family to be a part of your family.