



DOWN MAINE VETERINARY CLINIC
89 COUNTRY CLUB ROAD
SANFORD, ME 04073
207-324-4683



Pre-Surgical Care

Patient: _____ Date of Procedure: _____

Please take note of the following:

- Make sure your pet has no food or water starting 12 hours before the procedure.
- Drop-off is between **7:30 and 8:00 A.M.** on the scheduled day of the procedure.
- You may call after **2:00 P.M.** to inquire about your pet's status and tentative release time.
- If you are a new client, please provide documentation showing that your pet's vaccines are current.

Perioperative procedures:

- It is our goal to provide a safe and smooth anesthetic episode. All patients will be examined prior to anesthesia and animals over five years of age will receive a preoperative blood test to help assess anesthetic risk. For certain patients with known or suspected medical problems, a doctor may suggest more in-depth pre-anesthetic screening.
- If further testing has not been recommended and you feel that it is needed, please bring your concerns to the attention of the receptionist at admission. A doctor or staff member will be happy to address any questions.
- Most patients are administered a preoperative agent containing a combination of pain medicine and a mild tranquilizer prior to anesthetic induction.

Anesthetic Protocols:

- The anesthetic protocol and agents chosen vary depending on the given procedure, age and health status of the patient. The effect on the patient can range from mild sedation to complete but temporary unconsciousness.
- Vital signs are monitored both manually, and with monitoring devices (ECG, pulse oximetry, capnography and blood pressure).

Surgery:

- For all abdominal surgery the patient's abdomen will be clipped and aseptically prepared. Instruments will be sterilized and the surgeon will aseptically scrub his or her hands, wear a surgical cap, mask and gown and sterile gloves.

Postoperative care:

- All patients are monitored closely by clinic staff during the recovery period, periodically though out the day and just prior to discharge. A staff member will meet with you before discharge to give any pertinent post-op instructions. If you prefer to meet with a doctor, please inform the receptionist when you arrive to pick up your pet.