

PERIOPERATIVE CARE

Many people are understandably concerned about the thought of their pet undergoing any general anaesthetic and/or surgical procedure. The aim of this leaflet is to explain exactly what will happen to your pet and how you can best care for him or her before and after surgery.

PREPARATION FOR SURGERY

To avoid the risk of vomiting under anaesthesia we will ask you to ensure that your pet (dog, cat or ferret) has been “starved”. This means that they should have a light meal the evening before surgery and nothing to eat after 11pm.

It is not necessary to remove water until the following morning but cats should be kept in overnight and dogs exercised on a lead to prevent scavenging. Please take your dog out for a short walk to toilet on the morning of the surgery.

Other small mammals such as rabbits, guinea pigs and rats SHOULD NOT be starved.

Medication should be given as normal unless advised otherwise by the veterinary surgeon, if you are in any doubt please ring the surgery to check.

LEAVING YOUR PET

When you book your pet in for a procedure you will be given an appointment on the morning of that day with a veterinary nurse or one of the veterinary surgeons. They will check the animal and that you understand the nature of the procedure and ask you to sign a consent form. Please tell them about any clinical signs such as coughing or drinking excessively, any medication that your pet is taking or any previous problems. This will help us to select the most appropriate anaesthetic protocols.

We will also ask you if there are any other treatments or procedures you would like us to undertake while your pet is with us for the day (see details below).



Maids Moreton
Overton
Maids Moreton
Buckingham
MK18 1RE
Tel: 01280 812057

Old Stratford
5 Furtho Court
Towcester Road
Old Stratford
MK19 6AQ
Tel: 01908 567272

PERIOPERATIVE CARE

PRE-ANAESTHETIC BLOOD TESTS

All anaesthetics and surgical procedures involve some risk to the patient. In order to minimize those risks we examine each animal prior to their anaesthetic. Some problems that could lead to anaesthetic complications may not be physically evident but can be picked up by a pre-anaesthetic blood test.

Having a blood profile allows us to minimise further any risk to your pet either by altering our anaesthetic technique accordingly or by delaying the anaesthetic as appropriate. In addition it has the benefit of being a basic "health screen" which will let us know more about your pet's general health.

The cost of the blood test is £31.16 plus VAT.

We will let you know the results of the tests when you collect your pet or before if there are abnormalities we need to discuss.

OTHER PROCEDURES

As your pet will be at the surgery for the day and undergoing anaesthesia this is an ideal time to undertake other procedures that your animal may not enjoy when conscious.

Some procedures you may like to consider are:

Blood testing cats

Feline Leukaemia (FeLV) (£16.18 + VAT)

FeLV and Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (£25 + VAT)

Saving £10 + VAT blood sampling fee

Microchip implantation (£18.70 + VAT)

Saving 15% on our normal price

Nail clipping (£5.21 + VAT)



Maids Moreton
Overton
Maids Moreton
Buckingham
MK18 1RE
Tel: 01280 812057

Old Stratford
5 Furtho Court
Towcester Road
Old Stratford
MK19 6AQ
Tel: 01908 567272

PERIOPERATIVE CARE

Emptying anal glands (9.07 + VAT)

De-matting or trimming hair (from £10.00 + VAT)

N.B. This is not a professional grooming service

Saving 20% on our normal prices

Program flea control injection for cats (£26.50 + VAT)

Saving 15% on our normal price

PREVENTATIVE HEALTHCARE

This is also an ideal time to review preventative healthcare for your pet. We have the most cost-effective treatments for fleas and can apply these whilst your pet is with us or supply them for later use. All flea and worm preparations will attract a 10% discount if ordered at the time of admission.

If you have any questions about vaccinations or dental care we can discuss these. We do not undertake dental hygiene at the time of surgery as this may increase the risk of infection, however we can will examine your pets mouth thoroughly and advise on future care or treatment.

Booster vaccinations if required can be given at the post-operative check up once your pet has had a chance to recover. At this time the immune system will be better able to respond better than during times of stress or illness.

POST OPERATIVE CARE

Don't be in too much of a rush to take your pet home, we must be sure that the animal is sufficiently recovered. Some individuals take longer to recover than others, this is not necessarily an indication that there has been any problem.



Maids Moreton
Overton
Maids Moreton
Buckingham
MK18 1RE
Tel: 01280 812057

Old Stratford
5 Furtho Court
Towcester Road
Old Stratford
MK19 6AQ
Tel: 01908 567272

PERIOPERATIVE CARE

Animals may remain drowsy for 24 hours or so after a sedation or anaesthetic. Keep your pet warm and quiet and follow instructions about care and feeding. Remember that like humans your pet may be feeling slightly nauseous after a general anaesthetic. If your animal is still sleepy the following morning or shows any abnormal behaviour please contact the surgery.

FEEDING

After routine surgery your animal can have a small light meal once they feel like eating, for some animals this may be as soon as they get home, for others it may not be until the following day. If your pet has shown no interest in food after 24 hours please contact the surgery. After more serious surgery or any surgery involving the digestive tract you will be given specific instructions about feeding, please follow these.

Water should be available at all times but consider moving the water bowl to make it more easily accessible if necessary.

We will be happy to provide a few tins of highly digestible food if you wish.

EXERCISE

Immediately after recovery your pet will need to be kept warm and quiet. Cats should be kept in overnight with a litter tray. Dogs should be taken out ON A LEAD for toileting only. After the initial recovery period you will be given instructions regarding exercise but as a rule dogs should be kept on a lead until after the post operative check up.

Where orthopaedic surgery or entry into the abdomen have been carried out greater restriction of activity may be required such as preventing jumping up and climbing stairs.



Maids Moreton
Overton
Maids Moreton
Buckingham
MK18 1RE
Tel: 01280 812057

Old Stratford
5 Furtho Court
Towcester Road
Old Stratford
MK19 6AQ
Tel: 01908 567272

PERIOPERATIVE CARE

MEDICATION

Immediately after recovery your pet will need to be kept warm and quiet. Cats should be kept in overnight with a litter tray. Dogs should be taken out ON A LEAD for toileting only. After the initial recovery period you will be given instructions regarding exercise but as a rule dogs should be kept on a lead until after the post operative check up.

WOUND CARE

Most wounds will not require any special attention. Where possible we use dissolvable stitches which are buried under the skin preventing the animal from removing them. If your pet is licking or chewing at the wound it may be necessary to cover the wound or use an Elizabethan collar, which we can supply. If the suture line is starting to open up or appears inflamed please make an appointment for us to check it.

Remember that there may be deeper layers of stitches which require that the animal remains quiet even after the skin has healed.

If your pet has a bandage it is important that it is kept clean and dry. If any discharge, smell or swelling occur or the animal is worrying at it, please make an appointment for use to check the bandage. It is important that dressings are checked at the interval advised to avoid any complications.

POST-OPERATIVE CHECKS

When you collect your pet we will arrange for you to come back for a post operative check up with the vet or nurse as appropriate. For major surgical procedures there may be several check-ups to monitor progress, change dressings and advise about ongoing care. For routine operations this will should be a simple procedure and gives us a further chance to discuss any other concerns you may have about your pet's care.



Maids Moreton
Overton
Maids Moreton
Buckingham
MK18 1RE
Tel: 01280 812057

Old Stratford
5 Furtho Court
Towcester Road
Old Stratford
MK19 6AQ
Tel: 01908 567272

PERIOPERATIVE CARE

CHECKLIST

- WITHHOLD FOOD AND WATER AS DIRECTED
- PLEASE DISCUSS ANY CONCERNS OR EXTRA REQUIREMENTS WHEN THE NURSE ADMITS YOUR ANIMAL
- PLEASE BRING A CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER FOR THAT DAY
- ANIMALS SHOULD BE KEPT WARM AND QUIET AFTER SURGERY
- FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS ON THE POST OPERATIVE CARE SHEET
- KEEP FOLLOW UP APPOINTMENTS
- DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT US IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS
- A VETERINARY SURGEON IS CONTACTABLE BY PHONE 24 HOURS A DAY.

OUTSIDE SURGERY HOURS PLEASE RING
01280 812057
TO BE GIVEN THE MOBILE NUMBER OF THE
VETERINARY SURGEON ON DUTY



Maids Moreton
Overton
Maids Moreton
Buckingham
MK18 1RE
Tel: 01280 812057

Old Stratford
5 Furtho Court
Towcester Road
Old Stratford
MK19 6AQ
Tel: 01908 567272