

Anesthesia / Surgical Options

Countrycare Animal Complex



PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Our greatest concern is the well being of your pet. In order to keep basic surgery fees to a minimum, we offer several options to help make your pet more comfortable and the anesthesia/surgery process safer while also appreciating your individual budget constraints.

Countrycare Animal Complex's basic surgery package includes the following services. We do a pre-surgical exam to evaluate for any possible anesthetic or surgical concerns. We place IV catheters in all of our surgical patients to allow quick and easy access to a vein in the event of an anesthetic reaction or problem. We use thermal regulating equipment to maintain the patient's body temperature during surgery and recovery.

Our anesthetic monitoring includes an anesthesiology technician plus continual anesthetic monitoring with the latest equipment including pulse oximetry, EKG, temperature and capnograph. We always use sterile instruments and wear gowns, caps, masks and gloves for sterile procedures. We always use isoflourane gas anesthesia (one of the safest gas anesthetics available). Our patients also receive intra-operative pain medication and monitoring during recovery. Any suture removal after surgery is also included. If you choose to compare fees with other clinics, make sure that you evaluate the same quality of care.

The following items (Pre-anesthetic Blood Screening, Laser Surgery, IV Fluids, Pain Medication, & E-collar) are HIGHLY RECOMMENDED for all of our anesthetic/surgical patients. You have the option to accept or decline these services on the day of surgery. Please take the time to read over the explanations of each of the services offered so that you are prepared to make an informed decision for your pet. You are also free to ask any questions or receive further clarification when your pet is admitted to the hospital or by calling our office. Specific prices for the various surgical options are discussed when you admit your pet to the hospital.

Pre-anesthetic Blood Screening

We strongly recommend pre-anesthetic blood testing for any animal prior to undergoing anesthesia and/or surgery. Pre-anesthetic blood screening maximizes patient safety and alerts the doctor to the presence of many possible conditions or diseases that could complicate the anesthetic or surgical procedure. Many conditions (such as anemia, kidney or liver disease) cannot be detected with a physical examination alone. Proper liver and kidney function are important for removing the anesthetic medications from their body. Also, these test results provide a baseline that may be useful later for diagnosis and treatment of your pet as his or her health status changes.

Our state-of-the-art equipment allows us to perform these blood tests quickly prior to any anesthetic or surgical procedure. The blood screening includes a Complete Blood Count, Electrolytes, and a six-panel Chemistry Profile (Kidney enzymes-BUN & Creatinine, Glucose, Total Protein, and Liver enzymes-ALT, ALKP).

Laser Surgery

We offer all of our surgeries with the use of a CO2 Laser versus the 'traditional scalpel blade' technique. Laser surgery has the advantages of sealing blood vessels (*therefore less bleeding*), sealing lymphatic vessels (*therefore less swelling*), sealing nerve endings (*therefore less pain*), and clean and precise dissection of tissues. It also kills bacteria and tumor cells in an operative field. Because of the reasons listed above, the use of laser surgery can decrease post-op pain and swelling and allow a quicker recovery process with fewer side effects.

IV Fluid Therapy

IV fluid therapy is highly recommended for all surgical patients. It is designed to keep a patient's blood volume and blood pressure within normal range. This is important to insure perfusion of blood and oxygen to all of the animal's tissues-especially the kidneys. IV fluids help to prevent dehydration since water must be withheld for 12 hours before surgery and for 6-12 hours after surgery (until they have fully awakened from anesthesia). Fluid therapy has also been shown to increase patient comfort as documented in human literature.

Post-Op Pain Medication

We strongly recommend post-operative pain medication to help make your pet more comfortable. We automatically provide pain medication during surgery to help with the initial recovery period. Unfortunately, this injection will only last approximately 12-24 hours. The addition of post-op pain medication helps your pet to continue to be comfortable during the recovery period both at the hospital and while at home. The medication includes a pain injection +/- oral medications depending on the patient and the specific surgery performed.

Elizabethan Collar

An E-collar is advised for any patient with a surgical incision or sutures. The collar prevents them from licking the incision. We know that an E-collar can be annoying for both you and your pet, but most animals will lick their incision if given just a minute of opportunity! The licking will cause severe irritation and can cause potentially dangerous consequences (e.g. abdominal incision opening and intestines exposed, etc...) If you elect not to use an e-collar, you take the responsibility of post operative complications resulting from an open or infected incision site.

Surgical Healing Supplement

A specifically designed vitamin supplement to help speed recovery and promote adequate healing. It is in a capsule form and is dispensed for oral administration starting the day after surgery to be given for 7-10 days.

Paper Cat Litter – for cat declaw procedures only

Paper litter is mandatory for 5-7 days after a surgical declaw procedure. Our prepackaged litter bags provide the convenience of the appropriate litter during this healing period. You may also use shredded paper although it tends to be less absorbent and messier to handle.

Elective procedures or services while under anesthesia

Clients often request additional services either while their pet is under anesthesia or during the hospital stay. These services can be done under anesthesia for the pet's comfort (ie. nail trim) or during the hospital stay in order to reduce trips to the hospital (ie. Heartworm test, etc.) The following is a list of the most commonly requested items that you may choose for your pet. If there is another procedure that you would like done, please feel free to ask us if it would be acceptable for your pet to receive those services at the same time.

Dental Fluoride Treatment - Fluoride has been shown to slow down tartar and plaque formation on teeth and help strengthen teeth in young animals. Also, a fluoride treatment is recommended for young animals when teeth are first appearing to help strengthen immature enamel. The fluoride is applied to the teeth while under anesthesia.

Oravet Dental Sealant – Recommended after a dental prophylaxis to cover the teeth with a barrier sealant. This decreases the formation of plaque and tartar and may also lengthen the time before another dental prophylaxis is required. Useful for pets of all ages and all levels of dental disease. *Only available after a dental prophylaxis.*

Nail Trim- For any pet with long nails or resists having their nails trimmed. Performed while under anesthesia.

Ear Flushing/Cleaning- For any pet predisposed to ear infections or resists having their ears cleaned. Flushing procedure allows a deep cleaning all the way to the eardrums. Performed while under anesthesia.

Fecal Flotation - A screening tool to identify intestinal parasites that may be infecting your pet. Some intestinal parasites are transmissible to people and could be potentially exposing your family.

Microchip Implantation - A permanent microchip is placed under the skin to allow identification if your pet is lost or stolen. It provides the security that your pet will be identified even if the collar/tag is removed or lost. Performed while pet is under anesthesia.

Tonometer – Glaucoma Screening – Glaucoma is a main cause of eye pain & blindness in pets. Since it is impossible to 'see' glaucoma developing, it is vital to use a tonometer to test the eyes. It is recommended for all animals as a baseline & yearly for breeds predisposed to glaucoma. Performed under anesthesia.

Post-anesthesia Chiropractic Adjustment – Animals under anesthesia lose muscle tone which could cause their spine to become misaligned. Generally designed for pets under current chiropractic care to ensure that their spine is in the best alignment after an anesthetic experience. Performed after animal has recovered from anesthetic.

Radiographs (hip screening or arthritis) – This is a good time to screen for the development of hip dysplasia with the PennHIP technique. Also, radiographs allow us to evaluate for arthritis in any joint and recommend appropriate preventative supplements or treatment options. A relaxed (sleeping) patient can improve the quality of the x-rays. Done under anesthesia.

Annual Examination / Vaccinations / Heartworm Test – Vaccinations are administered the after anesthesia, prior to leaving the hospital. Also, check to make sure your pet's heartworm test and preventative are up-to-date.

PLEASE ASK US IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED!!

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