

PRE-ANESTHESIA INSTRUCTIONS

First, a few words to address any concerns you may have and to put your mind at ease. Modern anesthesia is generally quite safe and although there are many different anesthetic agents available, we have chosen to use only a few at Sarasota Veterinary Center and they are the safest injectable and gas anesthesia agents.

For those clients whose pets are older, please take heart in the phrase, "age is just a number". The most important factor in determining whether a pet can go under anesthesia is their overall health and not their age. In fact, over 85% of all anesthetic procedures performed on people are done on senior citizens. One of the consequences of living longer is more health issues that may require anesthesia.

We always perform a physical examination and pre-anesthesia blood tests just as your own doctor would do before an anesthetic procedure. The good news is that we can do this the same day and have results in 15 minutes so that you do not have to make multiple trips to bring your pet to see us. We also have state of the art monitoring devices measuring vital signs including heart rate, respiratory rate, percent of oxygen in the blood and more. Our surgical suite truly resembles something you might see on a medical TV show.

Finally, we perform our surgeries on a warmed table and have an IV catheter and fluids running at all times for the safest and easiest recovery when your pet wakes up.

Pet Owner Responsibilities Before Their Pet's Surgery or Anesthesia

- Do not feed your pet after midnight the night before anesthesia (water is ok all night and in the morning as well).
- Walk your pet and give them an opportunity to use the bathroom the morning of anesthesia before bringing them to our hospital.
- Tell us about anything concerning your pet that we should know before performing anesthesia (medication, supplements, illnesses, allergies).