



## **CANINE COMPREHENSIVE SURGERIES**

**Comprehensive Physical Exam:** In addition to determining if anesthesia is appropriate by evaluating your pet's vital signs (temperature, pulse and respiration), listening to heart and lungs and checking gum color and capillary refill time (CRT), the doctor will also examine all body systems including ears, eyes, skin, and teeth. Heart murmurs, abnormal lung sounds like crackles or wheezes, slow CRTs, high or low heart rates or respirations can all indicate an underlying disease that may make anesthesia unsafe. All of these findings will be sent home with the pet in a Progress Report and discussed with the owner via phone prior to surgery if necessary.

**Extensive Pre-Op Bloodwork** (CBC/Chem 10/UA):

**Complete Blood Count (CBC):** The 3 main things the doctor looks at are: increases or decreases in white blood cell counts (WBC), which could indicate infection or inflammation in the body, red blood cell counts (RBC) for dehydration or anemia and platelet levels, which are the clotting cells. The doctors use these values to determine: how much IV fluids to give during surgery, if there are signs of infection that require antibiotics or other diagnostics, if it is safe to proceed with surgery, as well as to establish a pre-op baseline to be used for comparison if needed.

**Chem 10:** Evaluates your pet's liver and kidney values, which helps the doctor make the safest drug choice before, during and after surgery (many of these drugs require healthy liver and kidney function). This also checks for low or high blood sugar, which would require additional treatment or diagnostics. It reveals your pet's total protein level, which helps determine the rate of fluid administration. Excessively low protein levels, common with intestinal parasites and other diseases, could make high doses of IV fluids unsafe.

**Urinalysis:** Evaluates your pet's kidney function and screens for diabetes, bladder infections, and crystals which would require further diagnostics or treatment.

**Intravenous (IV) Catheter/Intra-Op IV Fluids:** This is a catheter that goes in your pet's vein. We will shave a small square on your pet's leg in order to place it. This "port" is used for fluids during the procedure and allows for us to maintain your pet's blood pressure as anesthesia causes blood pressure to drop. Prolonged low blood pressure can cause organ dysfunction. This catheter is also a "port" that allows the doctor to administer life-saving CPR medications should your pet experience a complication or emergency before, during or after surgery.

**Surgical Procedure:** Spay or Neuter

**Dedicated Anesthesia Assistant:** A Level III or IV Veterinary Assistant who is specifically trained for years in monitoring anesthesia will remain with your pet before, during and after surgery. This Assistant will, with a doctor's guidance, monitor your pet's blood pressure, heart rate, respiration rate and depth of anesthesia, and will notice any problems and make necessary adjustments, many times before they become an issue.

**Complimentary Nail Trim:** A nail trim under anesthesia is one of the best we can perform, as your pet is completely still. We can also Dremel your pet's nails for an additional fee.

**Post-operative Pain Injections:** Dogs will get a Rimadyl injection, which will last for 24 hours. Rimadyl is an NSAID (non-steroidal anti-inflammatory) which means it treats both inflammation and pain. This injection gets the drug into the system before oral medications are started at home. Dogs will also get a Hydromorphone injection which is a very powerful morphine-like drug to make their recovery as pain-free as possible. (At the DVM's discretion, Metacam, another NSAID may instead be used.)

**Rimadyl (or Metacam) Take Home Pain Medication:** 7 days of oral Rimadyl or Metacam is included to keep your pet pain free during recovery while the surgery site heals.

## **CANINE STANDARD SURGERIES**

**Limited Physical Exam:** A doctor will evaluate your pet's vital signs (temperature, pulse and respiration), listen to their heart and lungs and will look at the gum color and capillary refill time (CRT). The doctor will use these findings to determine if anesthesia is appropriate. Heart murmurs, abnormal lung sounds like crackles and wheezes, slow CRTs, high or low heart rates or respirations can all indicate an underlying disease that may make anesthesia unsafe.

**Mini Pre-Op Blood Screen:** This 4 value blood test looks at your pet's packed cell volume (PCV), which, when paired with the total protein level, tells us if your pet is anemic or dehydrated, or bleeding. The total protein level also helps the doctor determine the rate of fluid administration. Excessively low protein levels, common with intestinal parasites and other diseases, could make high rates of IV fluids unsafe. It also checks the BUN, which is a screen for kidney disease. This screen is especially good for young, apparently healthy pets or animals with recent comprehensive blood panels. The last piece of this looks at your pet's sugar level (GLU), which is important in young and toy breeds as they tend to get low blood sugar after prolonged fasting.

**Intravenous (IV) Catheter/Intra-Op IV Fluids:** This is a catheter that goes in your pet's vein. We will shave a small square on your pet's leg in order to place it. This "port" is used for fluids during the procedure and allows for us to maintain your pet's blood pressure as anesthesia causes blood pressure to drop. Prolonged low blood pressure can cause organ dysfunction. This catheter is also a "port" that allows the doctor to administer life-saving CPR medications should your pet experience a complication or emergency before, during or after surgery.

**Surgical Procedure:** Spay or Neuter

**Dedicated Anesthesia Assistant:** A Level III or IV Veterinary Assistant who is specifically trained for years in monitoring anesthesia will remain with your pet before, during and after surgery. This Assistant will, with a doctor's guidance, monitor your pet's blood pressure, heart rate, respiration rate and depth of anesthesia and will notice any problems and make necessary adjustments, many times before they become an issue.

**Complimentary Nail Trim:** A nail trim under anesthesia is one of the best we can perform, as your pet is completely still. We can also Dremel your pet's nails for an additional fee.

**Post-Op Pain Injections:** Dogs receive a Metacam (or Rimadyl) injection, which will last for 24 hours. Metacam is an NSAID (non-steroidal anti-inflammatory) which means it treats both inflammation and pain. This injection gets the drug into the system before oral medications are started at home. Dogs will also get a Hydromorphone injection which is a very powerful morphine-like drug to make their recovery as pain-free as possible. (At the DVM's discretion, Rimadyl, another NSAID, may instead be used.)

**Metacam (or Rimadyl) Take Home Pain Medication:** For an additional fee, you can add 7 days of oral Metacam (or Rimadyl) to keep your pet pain free during recovery while the surgery site heals.

## **CANINE CLINIC SURGERIES**

**Limited Physical Exam:** A doctor will evaluate your pet's vital signs (temperature, pulses and respiration), listen to their heart and lungs and will look at the gum color and capillary refill time (CRT). The doctor will use these findings to determine if anesthesia is appropriate. Heart murmurs, abnormal lung sounds like crackles or wheezes, slow CRTs, high or low heart rates or respirations can all indicate an underlying disease that may make anesthesia unsafe for your pet.

**Surgical Procedure:** Spay or Neuter

**Post-Op Pain Injections:** Dogs will receive a Metacam (or Rimadyl) injection, which will last for 24 hours. Metacam is an NSAID (non-steroidal anti-inflammatory) which means it is both for inflammation and pain. We highly recommend, for an additional fee, adding 7 days of oral Metacam (or Rimadyl) to keep your pet pain free during recovery while the surgery site heals.