

# Crossroads Veterinary Hospital

## Anesthetic Procedure Information Sheet

What you should know about anesthesia safety & risks

We are an AAHA-accredited veterinary hospital. That means we hold ourselves to a higher standard. Pets are our passion and keeping them healthy is our #1 priority. Here we strive to deliver excellent care for pets, because your pets deserve nothing less.

Not all animal hospitals choose to pursue the AAHA accreditation process since it is not required by law. When it comes to pet health care, accreditation is voluntary. The accreditation process is rigorous and time-consuming, and not every veterinary hospital wants to go through the lengthy process. Our AAHA accreditation means that we have been evaluated on approximately 900 standards of veterinary excellence. To maintain our accreditation, we undergo a stringent review by veterinary experts every three years. AAHA accreditation is considered the standard for veterinary excellence.

By choosing Crossroads Veterinary Hospital for your pet's health care needs, you may rest assured that we adhere to the industries' highest standards for anesthetic procedures. Based on your pet's current health status and the planned procedure, the doctor will decide the best type of anesthesia. For your information, the following is an overview of our protocols.

**Intravenous Catheterization & Fluids:** Intravenous fluid support is included at no additional charge in all but the most minor procedures. The placement of an IV catheter and use of IV fluids during an anesthetic procedure allows us to have quick, available access to the circulatory system (blood) in case of an unforeseen emergency. The fluids help provide support to the circulatory system and prevent dehydration, as well as aid in a quicker recovery from anesthesia.

**Pre-sedation Medications:** Your pet will receive a combination of medications which are selected by the doctor and customized especially for your pet. These medications aid in relaxing your pet, assist in reducing pain during and after the procedure, and promote a smooth recovery.

**Anesthesia:** After your pet is pre-sedated and completely relaxed, an endotracheal tube is inserted into the trachea, safely delivering oxygen and the anesthetic agent. Our practice uses the anesthetic, Sevoflurane, the latest inhalant in veterinary anesthesia. Sevoflurane gives us rapid, precise control over the depth of your pet's level of anesthesia allowing our technician to achieve the optimal level of sedation during the procedure.

**Patient Monitoring:** One of our highly skilled technicians will personally monitor your pet continuously from induction to recovery. Additionally, while your pet is under anesthesia, our state-of-the-art electronic monitor tracks important vital signs, giving us a more complete picture of your pet's state of anesthesia.

**Recovery:** Surprisingly, the period of recovery can be one of the most crucial times for your pet. You can rest assured that your pet's overall status is closely monitored by our staff until your pet fully awakens.

**Pain Management:** We strongly believe in compassionate, quality, medical care for our patients. As a result, all surgical patients will receive pain management before, during and after surgery. Additional pain medication may be prescribed for home use. Our pain management protocol will aid in reducing discomfort and aid in a quicker recovery.

During your pet's discharge appointment, we will explain potential complications which may include bleeding, infection, and suture reaction. Information about more specific complications will be given by the technician or doctor.

**It is important for you to understand that there is always a risk of anesthetic and surgical complications anytime these procedures are performed. You have our assurance that we will provide your pet with the highest level of care and will take every available precaution to avoid potential problems. Thank you for entrusting your pet's care to us.**

Please sign and date this form, indicating that you have read and understand the information.

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Signature

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Date

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Printed name