



Presqu'ile Animal Hospital

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Preparation and Considerations Prior to Your Pet's Dental Procedure

- Please withhold food for 4-6 hours prior to the scheduled admission appointment unless instructed otherwise. If your pet will be fasted for longer than 8 hours, please feed a small meal (1/4 of their standard meal) as late as possible the evening before surgery. Toy breeds, pets under 10 lbs, pediatric or geriatric patients may be requested to eat a small meal the morning of the consult/procedure.
- Your pet can have access to water until the morning of surgery.
- Premedication for the majority of pets will include pre-sedation and anti-nausea medication at home
 - Administer Gabapentin and/or Trazodone as directed by your veterinarian. It is expected that these medications will cause some sedation. Avoid stairs, exercise and use caution around furniture, jumping, climbing etc.
 - Administer Cerenia as directed by your veterinarian. This is an anti-nausea medication to help reduce vomiting as a result of anesthesia.
- Please discuss any medication your pet is taking with our staff when scheduling your appointment so they can give specific instructions regarding medication, however, some medications are addressed below.
 - Insulin: please feed ½ of their normal morning meal and give ½ of their current dose of insulin at 6am the morning of surgery. Blood glucose monitoring will occur throughout the day.
 - Thyro Tabs, Methimazole, Felimazole: please give your morning dose as usual
 - Phenobarbital: please give your morning dose as usual
 - Vetoryl: please do not give your morning dose
 - Telmisartan, Benazepril, Enalapril, Amlodipine, Metacam, Clopidogrel or other medications that can affect blood pressure or clotting ability : please do not give your morning dose
 - Fish oils can affect clotting ability: please do not give your morning dose
 - Ensure that surgery is not booked within the 7 days following a Cartrophen injection
- Please ensure sure your pet gets normal exercise or a walk prior to the appointment, so they can eliminate urine or feces normally.
- If your pet is having oral surgery that includes extractions, ensure that you pick up a soft canned food to feed for 10-14 days after surgery. Alternatively, you can soften dry food in hot water for 20-30 minutes before feeding.
- For the safety of you and your pet, please have a leash or carrier for appropriate restraint when coming to the appointment.
- All of our patients go home on the same day as we do not provide overnight hospitalization. If there are concerns with a patient going home right away due to underlying conditions or complications, we may recommend overnight hospitalization at one of the local 24-hour emergency hospitals.

What to Expect After Your Pet's Dental Procedure

- When you arrive to pick up your pet, the Doctor or Veterinary Technician will discuss the procedure that was performed and go over written discharge instructions with you. Any additional questions can be answered at that time.
- A recheck appointment may be recommended depending on the procedure that was performed, and our team members will be sure to pre-book this appointment for/with you
- When you return home, your pet should go to a quiet room to rest and recover. They can go outside for urination (possibly increased due to intravenous fluids given during surgery) and bowel movements (possibly delayed or

decreased as a result of pain medications) that night. The next day they should have restricted activity. Usually, pets can return to normal activity levels 2 days after their procedure.

- A small meal can be offered upon returning home. For 10-14 days after surgery, your pet should not put anything other than soft food in his or her mouth. Remove all toys from the pet's environment to ensure he/she is not picking anything up. If dry food is typically fed, it can be soaked in hot water or broth for 20-30 minutes before offering. Changing the diet can cause gastrointestinal distress, so only offer canned food if your pet receives it regularly. Raw diets should not be offered for 14 days, as general anesthesia can suppress the immune system, and the bacteria typically found in raw diets could cause illness if your pet's immune system is not functioning optimally. The raw food can be cooked or a transition to a commercially available diet would be recommended. Consult with your raw food provider to determine how cooking affects the nutritional profile.
- An endotracheal tube is always placed during surgery to deliver gas anesthetic agents, protect the airway from fluid and bacteria, and to allow us to control breathing if needed. The ET tube may cause tracheal irritation, and a cough is not unusual for 1-2 days after intubation. Please call if coughing is severe or does not resolve in 2-3 days.
- Oral surgery is associated with some mild postoperative bleeding and bloody drool. Bloody sneezing and mild nasal bleeding are common after certain oral surgeries. If bleeding is severe (more than 1 drop every 10 seconds), apply mild pressure with a soft cloth and seek veterinary attention.
 - Sutures that are placed within the mouth are dissolve normally within 2 to 3 weeks.
 - If skin sutures are placed these will require removal in 14 days.
- If you were referred, your referring clinic will receive the following:
 - Referral letter describing the care provided, dental chart, anesthesia log, medical summary, radiograph report, and photos.

Possible Postoperative Complications:

Anesthetic agents can cause short-term dysphoria, disorientation, whining or howling, incoordination, loss of control of bladder or bowels. It is very important that any pet have an owner home with them for a minimum of 8-12 hours after surgery. If a pet is not recovering smoothly, it is recommended that a veterinarian be contacted prior to the pet being left home alone.

Risks that are anticipated and prepared for include but are not limited to:

1. Bruising at the IV catheter site
2. Irritation of the skin from the clippers and/or surgical preparation solutions (at IV catheter site).
3. Bleeding from extraction site(s)
4. Regurgitation or vomiting with potential inhalation of material.
5. Jaw fracture (procedure dependent)
6. Corneal ulceration
7. Lip entrapment or trauma from remaining teeth
8. Facial swelling
9. Suture Reaction
10. Breakdown or dehiscence of extraction site(s)
11. Possible severe anesthetic complications (extremely rare) include aspiration leading to pneumonia, low blood pressure leading to kidney failure, auto-immune thrombocytopenia or hemolytic anemia, loss of vision or hearing, or persistent nerve tingling (which may cause pawing at the mouth).
12. Persistent drooling, inability to chew large treats or certain foods, and decreased ability to pick up toys
13. Inability to keep tongue inside the mouth consistently when lower canine teeth are extracted.