



# Pre-Appointment Information

Your dog has been booked in to come to Hamilton Specialist Referrals for a specialist consultation. During the consultation the specialist will make a plan with you based on the clinical examination findings and they may advise further diagnostic tests or procedures.

We are sometimes able to offer this on the same day, depending on availability

Further investigations may require sedation or anaesthesia, and therefore require preparations prior their appointment. If you would like the option for further investigations on the same day, please follow the following instructions unless specifically told otherwise.

## NO FOOD SHOULD BE GIVEN SIX HOURS BEFORE YOUR PET'S APPOINTMENT

This is very important to prevent regurgitation under sedation or anaesthetic. Water should always be available. If your dog is diabetic, please contact the hospital for specific starving instructions.



## FOOD AND MEDICATION

- Some dog will stay in for the day and return home the same evening, however if your dog is having surgery, we will usually keep them in overnight for closer monitoring and/or extra pain relief. We will feed your pet once they wake up so if they have any special dietary requirements please let us know on the day or bring a meal for them with you.
- Please note, for hygiene reasons we cannot accept raw food into the hospital due to the risk of bacterial contamination.
- If your pet is on medication please bring enough of each medication for up to two days and nights.



## WORMING

If your dog does not receive monthly lungworm treatment, we advise that your dog has been treated with a lungworm treatment 5-7 days prior to their elective surgical procedure. If your dog is wormed monthly with lungworm treatment this will be sufficient and additional lungworm treatment will not be required. If you are unsure about this, please contact your local vets.

## ON THE DAY

- Before any anaesthetic or surgical procedures can begin, we must, by law, have a consent form completed. This will need to be signed by the owner or an agent acting on the owner's behalf, but they must be over the age of eighteen.
- For infection control and to avoid any lost items we will remove your dog's collar or harness prior to admission and use a slip lead whilst they are in hospital
- We will require a contact number where we can reach you all day, or if you are unavailable an agent who can act on your behalf. We may need speak to you about treatment, or find something unexpected and require your permission to act upon it. If your dog is admitted for surgery, a nurse will update you post-surgery and the surgeon will call you later that day. Please call if you have not been updated before 5pm. A post-operative care sheet will be given to you when you collect him or her from the surgery.



On the recommendation of an anaesthetist we may run a pre-operative blood profile performed immediately prior to surgery, to establish any underlying conditions that may affect our choice of anaesthetic. All pets in this practice are anaesthetised with the safest and most modern veterinary anaesthetics as standard, therefore reducing risks to a minimum. Please expect some areas of your pet to be shaved to allow medication to be given and monitoring equipment to be used.

