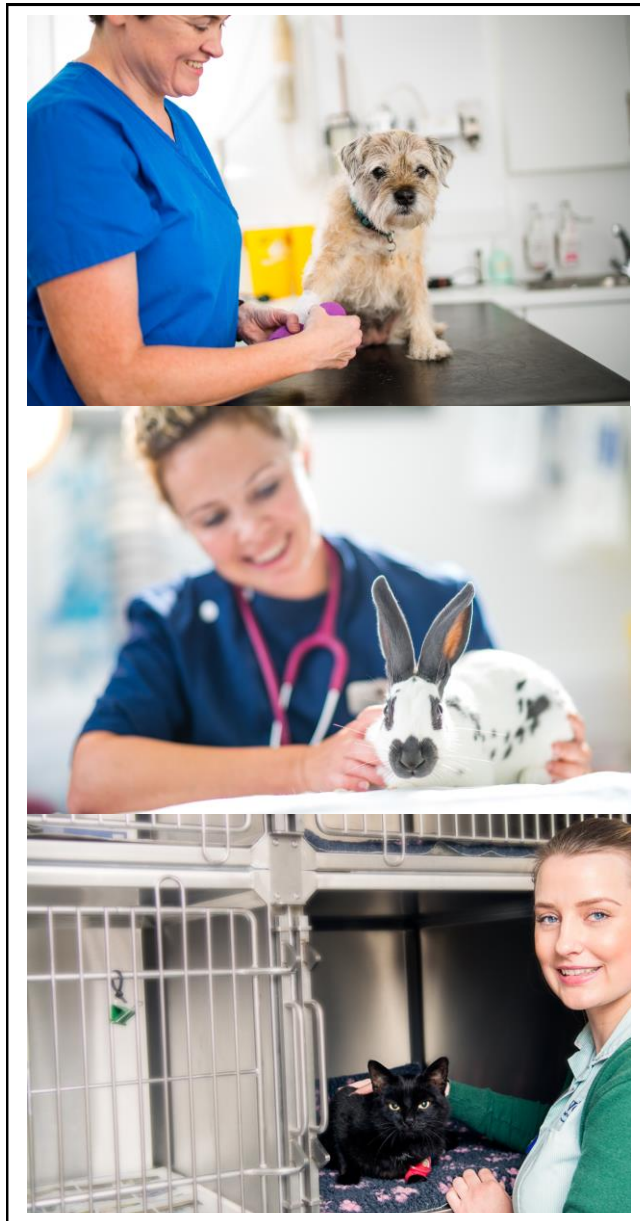


Anaesthetic Information



## **What to expect when you have been told your pet needs an anaesthetic:**

- If the vet recommends surgery for your pet an estimate of the costs involved will be given to you.
- Payment will be expected at the time of discharge.
- Admission appointments are between 8.30am and 9.20am. The nurse will make a discharge appointment at the time of admission, discharge appointments are usually between 3pm and 4pm the same day.
- The operation will take place during the morning. The nurse will give you a call after the operation and will update you on your pet's progress. **Please do not call the surgery, if the nurse has not called yet it will be because she is still in theatre.** If she does not get an answer when calling she will leave a message on your answer machine. Listen to your message you may not have to call back. **If you would prefer a text update please tell the nurses at admission.**

### **What we would like you to do:**

**Starve your pet from 11pm the night before the anaesthetic and lift their water dish in the morning:** This does not include rabbits and other small rodents which should not be starved, please take their food in with you.

**Make sure we have up to date and correct contact numbers:** If there are any unforeseen problems, other treatments required or the cost of treatment is likely to be more, we will need to get in touch with you quickly.

**If we are unable to contact anyone for permission the vet will use their own discretion and treat accordingly and therefore the final invoice will possibly be more than the estimate.**

**Please make sure your dog has been to the toilet before admission:** Should they soil themselves under anaesthetic we can not wash them thoroughly.

**Please read through the enclosed information prior to the operation:** If you have any queries please ask your veterinary nurse for more information.

## **ANAESTHESIA INFORMATION**

We suggest that your pet has a pre-anaesthetic blood test before the operation which will give an indication of liver and kidney function. The results will allow us to alter the anaesthetic accordingly. For pets over the age of 8 years we highly recommend a that a pre-anaesthetic blood test is done, there will be an extra charge for this.

## **PRE-ANAESTHETIC EXAMINATION**

All our surgical admissions are given a 'pre-med' consisting of a sedative, a morphine type painkiller and a non-steroidal type painkiller and an antibiotic will be given if required. These drugs are given to settle your pet into the kennel and to pre-empt any pain that may arise during or after the surgery.

## **GENERAL ANAESTHESIA**

We use the newest anaesthetic agents; these drugs are now used extensively for human anaesthesia. Animals anaesthetised with these agents go to sleep in a smooth and well-controlled manner and will wake up more rapidly and with very little 'hangover'. Furthermore, these agents have less effect on a number of vital organs including the liver, kidneys and heart. The anaesthetic is especially suitable for 'day case surgery' where patients operated upon can go home on the same day. We know that by using these agents, the anaesthetic experience for your pet is kept as short and as pleasant as possible.

## **ANAESTHETIC MONITORING**

All our patients are monitored by a veterinary nurse until they are fully recovered.

## **K LASER THERAPY**

Laser therapy or "photobiomodulation" is the use of specific wavelengths of light to create therapeutic effects. During each painless treatment, laser energy is used to increase circulation, taking water, oxygen and nutrients to the damaged area. This creates an optimal healing environment that reduces inflammation, swelling, muscle spasms, stiffness and pain. Laser therapy can help with; puncture wounds, post traumatic injury, post surgical pain, chronic wounds, burns, joint pain and osteoarthritis.

This treatment is shown as a separate cost on your estimate and you have the choice to opt out if you wish.

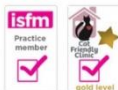
## **POST OPERATIVELY**

Quite often plastic buster collars are given home with owners. This is a plastic collar to prevent your pet licking the wound area. These collars are for used during the night or when your pet is alone and not being supervised. This is probably the one part of the operation that owner's find most difficult. Some pets don't bother with the wound area and other pets just need a few seconds to pull out the stitches! This would require another procedure to clean and repair the wound site. If you do not want the buster collar there may be alternative products you can use, speak to your nurse about these.

If stitches are used they are generally taken out ten days after the op and an appointment will be made when you collect your pet. Your discharging nurse will give you full information on wound care.

Painkillers are given during the operation itself and last 24 hours, if you think your pet is in pain after this period then please give us a call.

All anaesthetics carry some risk. We strive to reduce that risk to the least possible.



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