

# PREPARING FOR SURGERY & POST-OP CARE



CHRIS WATSON VETERINARY  
& ORTHOPAEDIC SERVICES

## PREPARING YOUR PET FOR SURGERY

It is important that we work together to ensure the best results for your pet's upcoming surgery. Here are a few things to remember -

- Limit exercise to walking on a leash only
- Start a diet food or reduce food intake by 10% if your pet is carrying extra weight. This will dramatically improve your pet's ability to recover
- Give your pet an early dinner the night before the scheduled surgery date. Water is fine and should be left available
- **Stop all anti-inflammatory medications 48hrs prior to surgery.**
- Please let us know if your pet is on any other medications
- Please arrive promptly to your scheduled admission appointment
- Please call if there are issues

## DAY OF SURGERY

During your admission appointment we will re-examine your pet. Perform pre-anaesthetic blood work (if necessary) and prepare your pet for the anaesthetic.

Surgery is usually performed in the late morning. You will receive a phone call post-operatively to give you updates and we will schedule a discharge time for the following day.

Your pet will spend the first night in hospital receiving intravenous fluids and constant rate infusion (CRI) pain control.

## DISCHARGE APPOINTMENT

At your pets discharge appointment we will provide you with all the information and medications you will need to assist your pet in a successful recovery.

## PREPARING YOUR HOME FOR AFTER SURGERY

Prior to your pet coming home, you should determine where you are going to confine your dog during this post-operative period.

We suggest you consider the following to restrict movement during the recovery period

- A dog crate that is large enough that he/she can stand up and turn around
- A gated off area such as the kitchen
- Confinement to a room

Surfaces such as hardwood floors/tiles can be very slippery. We suggest that you place a rug with rubber backing down to make it easier for your dog to walk around.