

## General Pre-Surgery Information

*Patient Name* .....

*Date Of surgery*.....

### Admission

Admission is between the hours of 7.30am and 9.30am.

In the admission you will meet the veterinary nurse that will be looking after your pet throughout the entire surgical procedure. We shall ask you, or an authorised adult, for written permission to perform the operation on your pet. We make time to guide you through the consent form so that we can explain any terms that you do not understand or are worried about. Please allow 5-10 minutes for this.

The nurse looking after your pet will call you when the procedure is completed and your pet has made a smooth and stable recovery.

- **Fasting:** Please fast your pet of food only for 12 hours prior to the surgery. Offer plenty of water overnight and in the morning.

### Pre Anaesthetic Blood testing

Upon arrival your pet will receive a full health check to determine if there are any pre-existing problems, which may have an influence on some of the drugs and materials we use. Some problems, however, cannot be determined by physical examination alone and we have the facility to perform a pre anaesthetic blood screen to determine whether there is likely to be an increased risk.

- We have a modern blood analyser for this purpose and results are available within 20 minutes, allowing any adjustments to be made in the anaesthetic protocol. Please ask for further details.

### Fluid Therapy

As is routine in human hospitals, we provide intravenous fluid support (a drip) for our patients. We believe this benefits all pets and allows them to make a stronger and speedier recovery. It also keeps a vein open for smooth injections of anaesthetic agents and medications, and helps maintain stable blood pressure throughout the anaesthesia

### Pain Relief

All pets undergoing surgery at Hamilton Veterinary Clinic have an analgesic (painkiller) as part of their premedication, so that they are more comfortable and therefore less frightened when they wake up.

- ✓ You may receive a pain relief tablet for the night of the procedure to ensure they have a comfortable nights rest, and depending on the nature of the surgery you may also receive another tablet for the following morning. This will ensure your pet is comfortable and pain free through their recovery process.

### **Stitches and Bandages**

- Your pet may be sent home with stitches in place; these will usually be required to stay in for up to 10 days. They must stay dry, so it is advised that they not swim or be bathed during this time.
  - If your pet is sent home with a bandage on, it must stay completely dry and be re-dressed by a veterinarian after 3-5 days.
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- ✓ If your pet show interest in pulling at and licking the stitches or bandages, an Elizabethan collar, or bitterant spray may be necessary to prevent this.

### **Discharge**

You will receive a folder with aftercare information, any medication needed, results of blood test, depending on the services provided. The discharging nurse will take you through the information and ensure you are happy, well informed and comfortable with the after care of your pet.

We know that even the most minor operation may cause considerable anxiety. We shall keep you involved all the way and we assure you that we shall give your pet individual and caring attention. We look forward to seeing you and your pet.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us on 49696852 or visit us at [www.hamiltonvet.com.au](http://www.hamiltonvet.com.au)