

Before, during and after surgery – what will happen to my friend?

Surgery is a significant step in anyone's life. It is normal to feel nervous and worried about your furry friend who is about to have a surgical procedure.

Rest assured, we would not recommend surgery if it wouldn't benefit your pet.

Bellow are a few notes to try and help you understand better the surgical process.

Two days prior to surgery

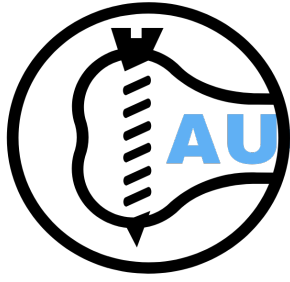
- a general blood check should be performed
- do inform your vet about any vomiting or diarrhoea
- do inform your vet about any infected ears or skin
- the surgery may be postponed due to increased risks of infection should the above occur
- ideally, dogs should be given a bath or a shower prior to surgery; please use your regular shampoo

On the day of the surgery:

- expect 30-60 minutes consultation prior to the surgery
- please do not feed your pet on the day of the surgery; you can leave the water though
- please do walk your dog to empty their bowels
- please administer the anti sickness tablet (Cerenia) the night before surgery; your vet should have prescribed it; if this is not possible, do not worry, an injection can be administered
- please keep cats indoors from the night before surgery and please provide litter trays
- pain medication that was already prescribed should be given as usual

After admission

- the hair will be clipped – this tends to be a large area to reduce the risks of infection
- general blood profile may be performed, if not done already
- your pet will be put on a drip to prepare for surgery
- we will administer a light sedative to smooth things out



After induction of general anaesthesia

- we may need to take more xrays
- nerve blocks will be used to reduce the pain during and after surgery; we are using nerve locators for precision
- if your pet will have an epidural, it is normal for the hair on its back to grow very slowly
- one of the complications of any nerve blocks is nerve trauma; however the risk is very low

During surgery

- the general anaesthesia is monitored by a qualified member of staff
- we will stop the surgery if your pet is not stable during the general anaesthesia

After surgery

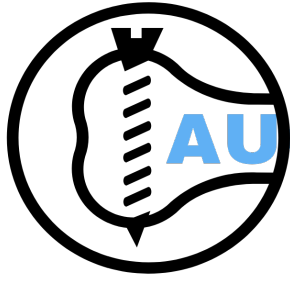
- fluids will be continued during recovery
- your pet may need hospitalisation over night but most of the times it should go home the same day

At home

- constipation is common and this is because of the medication
- urine should be normal
- drowsiness or restlessness is also acceptable in the first night postoperative
- the incision should not bleed

Postoperative care following general anaesthesia

- After general anaesthesia, expect your pet to be drowsy for a few hours. Also, they may be unable to properly regulate their body temperature. Please keep your pet at a comfortable 20 degrees during the first night after a general anaesthesia.
- Coughing is normal after general anaesthesia as a tube was placed in the trachea (the wind pipe). Coughing should be intermittent and only occasional. You should expect it to get better and almost gone 3 days postoperative. If the cough is getting worse, please see your vet.
- Because of the intravenous fluids given under general anaesthesia, abundant urination is to be expected. Please provide lots opportunities for urination. However, because of the fluids, drinking may not be noticed for the first 12 hours postoperative.



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- Pets can have a bland diet after the general anaesthesia. Most of the time, they should eat on the night after the surgery. However, do not worry if your pet is not hungry in the first 12 hours postoperative.
- Constipation is normal for the first 2 days after general anaesthesia. Sometime this interval is longer but if no faeces are passed by day 5 please contact your vet.
- If vomiting or diarrhoea occur, please stop the anti inflammatory drugs and contact your vet.

