



## **Our Peace of Mind Policy**

We know you have concerns about anesthesia for your pet. We are dedicated to providing the best experience in anesthesia & analgesia for your companion. Our doctors are trained to deliver anesthesia effectively with excellent results for your peace of mind. Each pet we see that will undergo anesthesia will receive a comprehensive pre-anesthetic exam. Although some animals can have an unexpected reaction to anesthesia, similarly to a vaccine reaction, we take every precaution to prevent any anesthetic emergency. Additionally, all patients receive a pre-anesthetic blood work panel, performed here or from your referring veterinarian. Pre-anesthetic blood work can show abnormalities that may not be present on physical exam. We specifically design our anesthetic protocol with your pet in mind; we consider their breed, temperament, size, age, past medical history, including reactions to previous anesthesia or drugs and current medical conditions. We add pain medications customized for their level of discomfort. We take into account the specific needs to be addressed with our patients that have diseases, such as heart, kidney or respiratory disease.

To help ensure the safest anesthetic experience, our staff monitors with state of the art equipment. We monitor blood pressure, cardiac parameters with an EKG, a stethoscope, and use a pulse oximeter (an oxygenation monitor). Our anesthetic monitoring is constant throughout the entire procedure and recorded every 3-5 minutes. To prevent infection at the catheter site your pet's fur will be clipped and the skin scrubbed with a surgical disinfectant. All patients receive an IV catheter and fluids during the procedure providing support to the kidneys, in addition to providing access for medication administration if needed for patient safety. A Bair Hugger® is used to help maintain your pets' normal body temperature, which is continuously monitored during the procedure. Having digital radiography (x-rays) provides our doctors with rapid viewing ability to diagnose and provide treatment, minimizing your pets' anesthetic time.

Companion Animal Dentistry performs dental procedures under general anesthesia with the patient intubated with a soft flexible endotracheal (ET) tube into the windpipe. This delivers the inhalant anesthesia and oxygen to your pet. This allows our doctors to control and assist breathing. The ET tube also protects your pet from inhaling fluids during the procedure.

We use "multimodal" pain management to provide optimal care and safety for your pet. Multimodal simply means multiple methods/routes to aid in preventing pain in your pet. Our doctors design protocols that block pain signals at different levels and pathways.

Typically we send patients home the same day as their treatment, of course each case is taken into consideration and the doctor may recommend an overnight stay. We will go over any post anesthesia and/or procedure discharge instructions at that time.