

Pregnant/Possible Pregnant Patients

Pregnant patients pose an increased risk for anesthetic procedures due to biological changes and the influence on and by the puppies/kittens.

- Due to the increased patient weight, the PCV and total protein in blood decreases; this change will alter the effectiveness of the anesthesia.
- Pregnant patients are often dehydrated though the PCV is normal.
- The increased volume of blood during pregnancy increases the amount of blood pumped by the heart; together with the hormonal changes and abdominal pressures, the patient's blood pressure is altered.
- Pregnant patients also tend to hyperventilate and have slightly restricted breathing capacity due to the abdominal pressures; this can lower oxygenation under anesthesia.
- In addition, pregnant patients are more likely to regurgitate while under anesthesia; therefore, withholding food for at least 12 hours is essential.

Any underlying conditions, such as heart disease, liver and/or kidney dysfunction, bleeding disorders, and respiratory disease, can increase these risks. Therefore, in order to provide the safest option for your pet, we REQUIRE the following additional services:

PRIOR TO THE DAY OF SURGERY (within 7 days)

1. Preoperative Screen Blood Work: Includes Chemistry 10, Comprehensive blood count (CBC), and coagulation profile (PT, PTT). \$52
2. Current Heartworm Test. (canines only) \$15
3. Physical Examination \$19.50

DURING SURGERY

1. IV catheter and fluids. \$40
2. Pregnancy Fee \$25

If you are unsure if your pet is pregnant and we discover the early pregnancy during the procedure, we will continue with the surgery and abort the pregnancy. Fluid therapy (\$40) will be provided and in-house blood work (\$87) may need to be performed if any complications arise.

I have read and understand the above information and consent to these procedures and any additional costs listed above.

Signature_____

Date_____