

ARGUELLO PET HOSPITAL

ANESTHESIA FOR YOUR PET AND FASTING INSTRUCTIONS

There are inherent risks anytime an animal is anesthetized. If a patient is seven years or older or has a history of medical problems, the veterinarians at Arguello Pet Hospital will require a pre-anesthetic blood panel. The panel will check the red and white cell counts, liver and kidney functions, blood sugar and electrolyte levels. A blood panel cannot reveal if a patient has the potential to have an adverse reaction to an anesthetic agent. It will reveal the presence of metabolic disorders that could affect the patient's ability to tolerate anesthesia. Your veterinarian will discuss any abnormalities and a decision will be made whether to proceed with the anesthetic, surgical and/or dental procedure.

Before anesthesia, your veterinarian will perform a complete physical exam. A pre-anesthetic drug(s) may be administered to regulate respiratory and heart rate during anesthesia. The anesthetic procedure starts with an intravenous injection of an induction agent followed by passage of an endotracheal tube into the trachea. Anesthesia is then maintained with isoflurane that is considered one of the safest gas anesthetic agents in veterinary medicine. During anesthesia your pet will be connected to ECG and respiratory monitors and when indicated, a pulse oximeter (measures oxygen levels in the blood) and a blood pressure monitor. A trained technician works with the veterinarian to monitor anesthesia during the entire procedure.

If you have any questions regarding anesthesia, please do not hesitate to direct those questions towards your veterinarian.

Fasting Your Pet

Since your doctor is going to be performing a procedure on your pet that requires her/him not to have eaten, please follow these guidelines.

- **Take your pet's food away at 12 midnight the night before the procedure is to be done.**
- **Take your pet's water away at 12 midnight the night before the procedure is to be done.**
- **Drop your pet off at the hospital between 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. on the day of the procedure.**

You are asked to fast your pet for surgeries, dentistry, specific bloodwork, or any procedure that requires anesthesia. **It is unsafe to anesthetize a pet that has eaten.**