

ADMISSIONS PROCEDURE FOR YOUR PET

The veterinary surgeon has advised that your pet be admitted as an inpatient at the Practice. This may be for an operation or for diagnostic tests such as blood sampling, skin tests or x-rays. The procedure we recommend is as below.

1. Offer your pet food as normal up until 7pm the evening before admission.
2. Remove your dog's or cat's food at 7pm. If necessary, you may have to withhold food from other pets in the household to be sure that the one being admitted is fasted overnight. (For small mammals, such as guinea pigs, rabbits, mice and rats, they should not be starved and food should be provided throughout the night).
3. Leave water available throughout the night.
4. Arrive at the surgery between 8.30 and 9.00 when your pet will be admitted by one of our nurses.
5. We offer pre-anaesthetic blood screening within the Practice. We recommend that all pets over 8 years have this to check if their liver and kidneys are functioning well prior to any anaesthetic drugs been given. It is also available for younger pets as an added precaution. Please ask the nurse on admission.
6. As a precaution we will automatically send all of our surgical patients home with a Buster Collar. To prevent further complications with the surgical site.

In some cases, it will not be necessary to starve your pet prior to admission and we will inform you if this is the case.

You will be asked to sign an admission form giving us permission to perform the required procedures and advising you of any risks involved. We use modern short-acting anaesthetics and sedatives, which minimise the risks and allow us to send most patients home the same day in the afternoon. The nurse will ask you to telephone the surgery to find out when your pet is ready to be discharged.

When your pet is discharged you will be given a discharge sheet, which explains how your pet will be for the next few days and gives details of any aftercare required. After anaesthesia, we advise feeding bland and easily digestible food. We can provide you with a completely balanced prescription diet for this purpose called Hills i/d. After dentistry, we advise feeding very soft food. You can liquidise normal dog or cat food, but again we recommend a balanced recovery diet called Hills a/d, which promotes healing and is softened especially for pets with sore mouths.

If you have any queries regarding these details, please contact the surgery.