

SOUTH EAST COUNTRY VETS

31 Cairns Croft Street, Toogoolawah QLD 4313 | P: 07 5423 1303


80 Hart Street, Blackbutt QLD 4306 | P: 07 4170 0022

16 William Street, Crows Nest QLD 4355 | P: 07 4698 2520



PREPARING YOUR PET FOR SURGERY

Your pet is scheduled to have an anaesthetic or sedation tomorrow. The anaesthetic drugs used on your pet are similar to those used in humans. Like humans, there are always risks involved in anaesthetics, by following these instructions you will help make your pet's visit as smooth and safe as possible.

- Please ensure your pet is clean. Your pet will not be able to have a bath for at least 10 days after surgery, so if your pet requires bathing we recommend that it be done prior to the day of surgery. This also minimises the surgical site preparation and therefore decreases the anaesthetic time.
- No food after 7pm the night before surgery (this includes treats!).
 - *If your pet requires medication with food in the morning, please contact your vet for instruction.*
- Fasting from water is not necessary. It is vital that your pet has free access to water until admission.
- Cats should be kept indoors with a litter tray the night before admission so that you can be sure they have not been out hunting overnight (and to ensure they are around when the cat cage comes out in the morning!)
- Please ensure you arrive at your set appointment time. This allows us to go through admission with you and discuss any questions about the anaesthetic/ procedure without too many unnecessary distractions.
 - *Cats MUST be confined in a secure carrier, and dogs MUST be on lead, for their safety and for the safety of other pets at the clinic.*
 - Please allow 10-15 minutes for this appointment and paperwork.
 - Advise your admission nurse of any medications and dose rates (even home supplements) your pet may be taking and whether they have had that morning's medication.
- A pre anaesthetic blood test is recommended to all patients undergoing an anaesthetic or sedation. This blood test gives us an insight into your pet's internal organ function required to metabolise anaesthetic drugs, which we may not be able to detect just on physical assessment and history. Undetected issues involving these vital organs carry a higher risk of anaesthesia for your pet. This blood test allows us to adjust doses or protocol if changes are detected.
- We will also discuss placing your pet on intravenous fluids during anaesthesia/sedation. This helps to maintain blood pressure during the procedure, supports vital organ function and ensures a faster recovery from the anaesthesia.
- Most procedures are day procedures. You can expect your pet to go home later the same day.
- The surgical nurse will call you after the procedure to book a discharge time. Please arrive at the set time, and allow 10 - 15 minutes for this appointment. During this appointment we will thoroughly go through your pet's procedure and the aftercare that will be needed to ensure a safe recovery.
- If your pet is getting desexed please note by Law all cats and dogs Desexed in Queensland from 1 July 2009 must be tattooed to indicate they are desexed (*Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) ACT 2008*).
 -  This symbol placed inside the left ear allows simple and rapid identification of desexed animals. The tattoo is performed under general anaesthesia and is painless and non-disfiguring.
- It is Queensland legislation that all dogs must be microchipped, and it is highly recommended for all cats. Please advise us upon admission if you require your pet microchipped.
- Full payment of veterinary fees is required upon discharge of your pet. This can be received in the form of cash, EFTPOS, Vetpay* or Zippay* (*preapproval required).

We look forward to seeing you and your pet tomorrow! Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.