

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 red blood cell count and total protein in blood decreases; this change will alter the effectiveness of the anesthesia.
- Pregnant patients are often dehydrated though the red blood cell count 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), Electrolytes and coagulation profile (PT, PTT). \$98.28
2. Current Heartworm Test. (canines only) \$17.25
3. Physical Examination \$21.50

DURING SURGERY

1. IV catheter and fluids.
2. Pregnancy Fee \$32

**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 will be provided and in-house blood work 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 _____