



What To Know When Your Pet Is Scheduled For An Outpatient Procedure

1. Can my pet eat or drink prior to the procedure?

All patients presenting for abdominal ultrasounds or CT scans should have food withheld for 12 hours. Water is acceptable up to 1 hour prior to the procedure.

2. What do I need to leave with my pet at the time of admission?

*Please bring any medications your pet is taking.

*A 75% deposit is required upon admission for procedures.

3. Why does my pet require sedation or anesthesia for the procedure?

Some procedures, such as CT scans, require the patient to be completely still in order to obtain good images.

To that end, sedation &/or anesthesia help to relax your pet during the procedure, making their experience less stressful & more pleasant.

4. Why does my pet need to have his/her hair clipped?

Patients often require the placement of an intravenous catheter to administer medications, such as sedatives & fluids. The hair at the site of puncture is clipped & scrubbed with an antiseptic solution to prevent infection.

Ultrasound requires the imaged site to be clipped since hair & debris prevent good images from being obtained.

5. When will the procedure be completed?

The duration of the procedure can be difficult to predict. The doctor will give you an estimate at the time of drop off; however, schedule changes may occur to accommodate emergencies. We ask that you please be patient in these situations.

6. When will I receive the results of my pet's ultrasound/CT scan?

Following completion of an ultrasound, the doctor will call you with the results. CT scan results may not be available the same day. You will receive a phone call once they have been received in the hospital.

7. How soon after the procedure can I pick up my pet?

The doctor will call you once the procedure is completed & your pet is awake from sedation/ anesthesia. Anesthetized patients should remain in the hospital for observation for a minimum of 1-2 hours following their procedure.

8. I was dispensed medication. When should I give it next?

Directions will be on the prescription bottle & the next scheduled dose should be listed on the discharge instructions. Please ask if you are unsure.

9. My pet was sedated/anesthetized. What should I expect at home?

*Your pet may have a small bandage on his/her leg where the catheter was located. This should be removed 1 hour after discharge. Avoid using scissors.

*Your pet may be very sleepy & disoriented for 12-24 hours following sedation/anesthesia.

*Keep them in an area where they are safe, away from stairs & obstacles/furniture to avoid falls & injuries.

*The evening of sedation/anesthesia, your pet may have a small amount of food & water. They can resume their normal feeding schedule the next morning.

*Sedation/anesthesia along with fasting can slow the GI tract. This may result in your pet not defecating for 3-5 days following the procedure.

*During anesthesia, a tube is placed in the trachea. Mild irritation can result in a soft cough for 3-5 days. If the cough is productive or worsens, please give us a call.

Thank you for entrusting your pet's care to us.