



215 Messenger Street, Johnstown, Pennsylvania 15902  
Phone: 814. 536.5105 Fax: 814.535.8682  
johnstownveterinary.com

## WHAT TO EXPECT THE DAY OF SURGERY

Surgery admissions are between 7:45 a.m. to 9 a.m. *unless client is provided different verbal instructions*. All patients are given the same timeframe for admissions. All admissions are on a first-come, first-served basis. You must plan your day accordingly as we are not able to provide you with an exact time for admissions or know how long the process will take. You will be provided with consent forms to read, approve and sign. The length of time will vary due to admission instructions for each patient and/or if clients have questions regarding their pets stay. We ask you to please be patient as this is an important time to go over the details of your pet's procedure to make sure that all of your expectations are met. **Please be available by phone at all times the day of your pet's surgery. Our doctors and/or staff may be calling with updates, questions or concerns and cannot proceed in certain situations without your consent.**

**Fasting Instructions:** Your pet needs to have an empty stomach prior to undergoing anesthesia. All patients should be fasted from midnight the night before. Your pet may have water up until the morning of his/her procedure. Please do not provide your pet any snacks or treats the morning of surgery. We want to make this the safest procedure for your pet. If you did give you pet food (including treats and/or snacks) we ask you tell us so that we are able to provide your pet with an anti-emetic, so that your pet does not vomit during the procedure which can cause complications like pneumonia and infections.

**Surgery Admissions:** We schedule admissions between 7:45 a.m. to 9 a.m. to allow for pre-surgical preparations such as a physical exam, pre-surgical bloodwork, additional or special testing (like radiographs, ultrasounds, or urinalysis), IV catheter placement, shaving of catheter site and surgical area, preparation of surgical suite, etc. This process can sometimes take up to 2 to 3 hours prior to starting surgery. We are not able to determine when your pet will have his/her procedure done and therefore cannot give you an exact time that the surgery will start.

**During the Day:** If you are worried about your pet, we ask that you give us a call around 5 to 6 p.m. to check on your pet. Please feel free to call during that time, and we would be happy to provide you with an update. After your pet's procedure, he/she is sent to recovery and is monitored to make sure that he/she is recovering properly without complications. Depending on the procedure, they may be able receiving IV fluids throughout the day. During this time, staff will also prepare discharge instructions and get medications ready to be sent home with your pet, if needed.

**Surgery Discharge:** Most surgeries will be hospitalized overnight *unless client is provided different verbal instructions*. Surgery discharge is any time after 11 a.m. for hospitalized patients. All surgery discharge patients are on a first-come, first-served basis. You must plan your day accordingly as we are not able to provide you with an exact time for discharge or know how long the process will take. The length of time will vary due to discharge instructions for each patient and/or if clients have questions regarding their pet's surgery. You will be provided with surgery discharge instructions that will be reviewed with you that you also have to sign. We ask you to please be patient.

**After Surgery:** Each pet recovers differently. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. One of our technicians will be calling a couple of days after surgery to check-up on your pet. Most patients will return to us two weeks after their procedure to have their sutures removed or have their surgical sites evaluated.

# JOHNSTOWN VETERINARY ASSOCIATES



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