

Crepe Myrtle Animal Hospital, PA

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Pre-Surgery/Sedation Take Home Instructions

Proper preparation for your pet's surgery/sedation procedure is just as critical to your pet's wellbeing as after-care. Please follow these instructions to provide as safe and comfortable of an experience as possible.

- No food after 10 pm.** Do not allow your pet to have anything to eat (no food, treats, or medicine) after 10 pm the night before the appointment. Your pet may be offered water, but nothing else. Depending on your situation, it might be best to confine your pet to a room or crate to ensure that they do not get into anything edible.
- Drop your pet off between 7:30 and 8 am.** Arriving on time ensures that we can begin your pet's procedure when appropriate. If this check-in time is not feasible for you, please discuss other arrangements (such as boarding overnight prior to the appointment) ahead of time with one of our staff members. Late appointments may have to be rescheduled.
- Checking in your pet takes time.** Plan to spend 5-15 minutes going over paperwork and answering questions. A thorough check-in means that you, our staff, and our doctors are all on the same page. If someone other than yourself is going to be dropping your pet off with us, make sure that it is a person whom you trust to sign documents on your behalf and tell them which surgical options you want to have done (or pre-authorize surgical options through staff beforehand).
- Dentals:**
 - All pets are required to be on antibiotics for a minimum of three days prior to a dental cleaning. Do not give the antibiotics the morning of the dental (remember: no food after 10pm!). The day following the dental, start giving the antibiotics again after your pet eats a full meal. Always finish the entire course of antibiotics that was prescribed.
 - On the day of the dental, be sure to remain available for phone calls as our doctor will call you to discuss and authorize any needed oral surgery (such as tooth extractions or mass removals). If we cannot contact someone for authorization, your pet risks being under anesthesia longer than necessary and the doctor will not be able to perform the needed oral surgery. If the doctor does not call you regarding oral surgery, do not worry; this just means that no oral surgery is needed – no news is good news!
- We will call you with an update.** For most surgeries, a staff member will call you once your pet wakes from anesthesia to let you know how they are doing. This usually will happen around lunch-time.
- Unless instructed otherwise, you may pick up your pet on the same day of surgery/sedation between 4 pm and 6 pm.** At that time, a staff member will go over post-op instructions, explain any medications being sent home, and answer questions that you may have.

These are general instructions for pre-op care for most surgeries. Please follow any and all additional instructions given you by the doctors and/or staff. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call.