



*Bellville*

PATIENT DETAILS –  
STICKER WILL BE PRINTED  
AT PRACTICE

## Anaesthetic and surgical consent form (spays, castrations, x-rays, dentals)

**Please take time to review this sheet, and sign the authorisation. We realise that it is long, but you will agree with us that it is in your animal's best interest.**

\_\_\_\_\_

Surgical procedure: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### 1. Pre-anaesthetic health questionnaire (circle the applicable answer)

- Has your pet had any food in the last 12 hrs? \_\_\_\_\_ yes / no
- Has your pet ever had any previous anaesthetic complications? \_\_\_\_\_ yes / no
- Is your pet allergic to any drugs / medication? \_\_\_\_\_ yes / no
- Is your pet currently experiencing any coughing, sneezing, vomiting or diarrhea? \_\_\_\_\_ yes / no
- Has there been any abnormal increase in water intake or urination over the last 6 months? \_\_\_\_\_ yes / no
- Has there been any abnormal increase or decrease in appetite over the last 6 months? \_\_\_\_\_ yes / no
- Does your pet get out of breath with non strenuous normal exercise? \_\_\_\_\_ yes / no
- Has there been any unintended weight loss / weight gain in the last 6 months? \_\_\_\_\_ yes / no
- Does your pet suffer from any chronic ongoing medical condition? \_\_\_\_\_ yes / no
- Has your pet received any medication over the last 30 days? \_\_\_\_\_ yes / no
- Has your pet been vaccinated in the last 12 months? \_\_\_\_\_ yes / no
- Has your pet ever had any serious illness? \_\_\_\_\_ yes / no

Comment:

### 2. Pre-anaesthetic blood testing

Procedures requiring anaesthesia are always associated with a certain amount of risk, whether the patient is a person or a pet. Most anaesthetic drugs are removed from the body by the liver and kidneys; therefore it is important that these organs are healthy. Although we'll perform a physical examination before administering anaesthesia, disorders of the liver, kidneys or blood are often not detected unless blood testing is done. It is also important that patients have normal blood cell counts to promote proper tissue healing and prevent excessive surgical blood loss. Abnormalities of these and other organs may increase the anaesthetic risk or surgical complications. Like you, we want to minimize anaesthetic and surgical risks as much as possible. For these reasons we offer pre-anaesthetic blood screens. The cost for this is R922.00.

#### Please initial:

- **Yes**, I want the blood screen. \_\_\_\_\_
- **No**, I do not want the blood screen. \_\_\_\_\_

If any of these test results are abnormal, we will discuss our findings with you and may decide to do one of the following:

1. Postpone the anaesthesia procedure until a later date
2. Further testing to pursue a specific diagnosis
3. Proceed with anaesthesia, but alter the drugs and procedures

If all the tests are normal, it does not guarantee that your pet will not have an anaesthetic reaction, but it does tell us that your pet is in a lower risk category. The test results may also be used as a starting point to detect early tendencies should your pet need to undergo blood tests at a later stage due to an illness.

**Cat owners:** we recommend that you know the Feline Leukaemia virus (FeLV) and FIV (feline AIDS) status of you cats. The cost of this is R373.00 (Please ask for an information sheet should you wish to find out more about FeLV / FIV in cats.)

**Please initial:**

- **Yes**, please test my cat for FeLV and FIV. \_\_\_\_\_
- **No**, I do not want to test my cat. \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Annual vaccination

Currently all animals should be vaccinated on a yearly basis. This is especially important for young animals and those that are getting on in years. Vaccination is one of the most effective forms of preventative medicine. Diseases such as parvo virus, canine distemper virus and infectious canine hepatitis are life threatening. There is a very effective feline leukemia virus vaccine that should be considered for all cats. In addition, you are required by law to vaccinate your pet against rabies as this disease is endemic in South Africa and is almost universally fatal in people that contract it after being bitten by rabid animals.

**My dog / cat needs to be vaccinated for the following – please initial.**

- Annual dog / cat vaccine and rabies yes \_\_\_\_\_ / no \_\_\_\_\_
- Cats: FeLV yes \_\_\_\_\_ / no \_\_\_\_\_

### 4. Drip placement (intra-venous fluids) and intravenous catheter placement

All patients at TAH that receive intravenous anaesthetics have an intravenous catheter placed so that we have access to the vein in case of an emergency and as we believe it is for the benefit of our patients.

General anaesthesia frequently results in a drop of blood pressure due to the effects of the anaesthetic drugs and inevitable blood loss during surgery. The consequences of prolonged low blood pressure include: acute kidney failure, brain damage and even death. The administration of intravenous fluids (i.e. a drip) is the primary measure used to control low blood pressure and allow for rapid administration of drugs directly into the blood stream should an emergency situation develop. Nearly all patients that receive anaesthetics receive a drip, with the exception of young healthy dog and cat spays and castrations and short anaesthetics for x-rays in healthy fit animals. We would also prefer to drip these animals as a routine but cannot do so as a result of costs. Should you wish us to place a drip the cost is R524.55

**Please initial:**

- **Yes**, I want my pet to receive a drip. \_\_\_\_\_
- **No**, I do not want my pet to receive a drip. \_\_\_\_\_

### 5. Supplementary pain control

Animals do not show pain as we do. They do not complain as loudly as we do and they tolerate levels of pain that we could not imagine. It has been shown that humans recover better and faster if they are pain free and it is the same for our pets. We consider painkiller medication as mandatory for the well-being of your animals: imagine yourself having surgery and not receiving painkillers when you wake up.....! *All of our patients receive morphine-like medication as part of surgical pain management and they are given a painkiller / anti-inflammatory injection that lasts for 24 hours as standard therapy.* This should be sufficient for minor surgical procedures. Patients that undergo larger operations are discharged with pain medication for at least 5 day post surgery.

We believe that it is important that patients must be pain free and in that regard we recommend that patients go home with pain medication for 5 days after the spay / castration to make *absolutely* sure that there is no risk of unnecessary discomfort, the cost of which is +- R165.00, depending on the animal's size.

**Please initial:**

- **Yes**, I am aware my pet will be discharged with pain medication for 5 days after the operation \_\_\_\_\_
- **No**, I do not want my pet to receive additional pain killers. \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE NOTE:** the vet may supersede this decision, at your cost, in selected cases where it would constitute unethical practice not to provide medication for pain relief.

### 6. Permanent identification: ID microchip implantation

Microchipping is a permanent method of identifying your pet. It involves the simple injection of a microchip underneath the skin of your pet. The chip contains a unique number that is registered with your pet's details on a central data base. Virtually all humane societies and animal control agencies scan pets for microchips. Most lost pets somehow have lost their collars, which makes this form of identification risky. Bottom line, if you want your pet back, should they become separated from you, you want your pet micro-chipped. If your pet is not yet micro-chipped, we can perform this small procedure to permanently identify your pet. The cost of this is R295 and a yearly administration fee (R65) is payable to Identipet after the first year.

**Please initial:**

- **Yes**, please microchip my pet. \_\_\_\_\_

