



## What happens on the day of the procedure?



### Admission

On the day of the scheduled procedure your pet will be admitted by either a Vet or a Nurse, who will discuss the plan for the day. They will run through the consent form with you and ask you to sign it at the bottom. They will ask you about insurance, current medications, allergies, contact numbers and whether the animal has been starved. It would be helpful if you could have this information to hand. If a pre-anaesthetic blood test is recommended, a sample of blood will be taken upon admit and run in our in-house laboratory. If there are any abnormalities, the vet in charge of the case will call you to discuss.

### Premedication

Once admitted, your pet will be taken through to the ward area. The nurses will take and record the weight, heart rate, respiratory rate and temperature before finding a kennel/cage to house your pet in for the day.

About half an hour before the start of your pets procedure, a premedication will be given. This is a combination of a sedative and pain relief drugs that are given to reduce anxiety and aid a smoother anaesthetic and safer recovery. Within ten minutes of the premedication being given the animal is usually relaxed and sleepy. A small amount of fur is clipped on their leg and a catheter is usually placed in the vein of one of the fore limbs.

### Anaesthetic and Procedure

When the Vet is ready to start the procedure the anaesthetic is administered into the catheter. Your pet will fall asleep within seconds and a tube will be placed through in the mouth and into the trachea to keep the airway open and enable us to administer anaesthetic gas and oxygen throughout the procedure.

The nursing team continually monitor the anaesthetic throughout the procedure. They assess the heart rate, respiratory rate, blood pressure, oxygen levels and temperature.

Once the procedure is finished, the anaesthetic gas is turned off, leaving the patient breathing pure oxygen until it is awake.



## Recovery

Once the patient has woken up and the tube is removed from the trachea, they are returned to their heated kennel and monitored closely by the ward nursing team. As soon as the patient is up and about, the ward team will offer food and water, remove the catheter from the front leg and prepare a discharge pack with instructions for going home.

## Progress and Discharge

Either the Vet in charge of the case, or one of the ward nurses will give you a call as soon as possible once the patient is awake, to discuss the procedure, advise you of home care instructions and book an appointment for you to collect your pet.

We understand that you will be anxious and keen to find out how your pet is, but procedures are conducted throughout the day so you may not hear from us until late afternoon.

Once recovery is complete, your pet may go home.

A small number of animals may suffer from a sensitive throat for 24hrs as a result of the tracheal tube. This is quite normal and you should not be concerned.