



Animal Protective Foundation

## Before Surgery Instructions

- Dog drop-off is at 8:15 am (late arrivals will be rescheduled) | Dog pick-up is same day at 3:15pm.
- **Feed Instructions:** All dogs should continue to be given water until the time of their appointment.
  - **Dogs 5 months and older-** No food after midnight the night before surgery.
  - **Puppies 3-4 months old-** Feed a 1/3 portion of meal up to 6am the morning of surgery
- Read over the information sent to you via email when you scheduled your appointment.
- Please bring any vaccines records for your dog to check-in. If a valid proof of a current rabies vaccination is not provided to the APF, your dog must legally be administered a rabies vaccine prior to leaving our facility.
- Please alert staff **if you know your dog is overly anxious/scared/potentially aggressive** with strangers or with veterinary handling. In some cases, the APF staff will ask you to stay with your dog during the pre-exam and pre-medication process to help reduce stress for your dog and for the safety of our clinic staff.

(APF reserves the right to decline any patient we feel that we cannot safely handle. If this occurs, we typically can reschedule the surgery and formulate a plan involving oral pre-medications and a different approach. We will not compromise staff, client, or patient safety for an elective sterilization procedure. We will always choose the approach that we feel is the least stressful and in the best interest of your dog.)

- **If your dog has been prescribed any of the following calming/anti-anxiety medications by another veterinarian for vet appointments, you may still administer the medication before coming to your scheduled surgery day: TRAZODONE, GABAPENTIN, ACEPROMAZINE, MELATONIN, CERENIA. Please let staff know what medications your dog was given the day of surgery.**
- If your dog is on any medication, has had any previous surgeries, or has any known medical problems or allergies, please alert staff by emailing [apfclinic@animalprotective.org](mailto:apfclinic@animalprotective.org) or at check-in.
- Please be aware that you may be required to sign a High-Risk Waiver at check-in if your dog is found to be/have:

- o Brachycephalic (smushed) face conformation
  - ◆ Breeds include Pug, all types of Bulldogs, Shih Tzu, Boston Terrier, Lhasa Apso, Pekinese, Japanese Chin, etc. (an anti-nausea injection called Cerenia is required for brachycephalic patients to help reduce the risk of vomiting and aspiration which is more common in these breeds. There is an additional charge for this injection).
- o Obesity
- o Heart Murmur
- o Asthma/Chronic Bronchitis
- o History of Seizures
- **Doberman or Doberman mix are required** to have a blood test for a genetic bleeding disorder called **Von Willebrands**. This blood needs to be performed at a regular full-service vet with results available before the day of surgery at APF.
- Any dog **over 8 years of age** is required to have bloodwork (a chemistry panel is **required**, a complete blood count /CBC is recommended) prior to spay neuter. Please have this completed with your regular vet and sent to the APF Clinic for approval for surgery.

### **Reasons for Refusal of Surgery**

Our veterinarians perform a pre-op physical exam on each animal prior to anesthesia and surgery and reserve the right to decline services to any animal for which surgery is deemed a health or safety risk.

### **Reasons for declining surgery may include, but are not limited to:**

- Animals that clinic staff cannot safely handle.
- Animals on medications for long-term conditions.
- Animals with known health issues that pose an increased surgical risk may be referred to a full-service veterinary hospital.
- Animals showing any signs of illness such as coughing, sneezing, runny eyes, vomiting or diarrhea.
- Animals with ringworm (either previously diagnosed or found on physical exam), which is a fungal skin infection that causes round scaly lesions on the skin and is highly contagious, will be declined for surgery until proof of treatment by a veterinarian and a negative fungal culture are supplied.
- Adult dogs under 5 Lbs and kittens under 3 Lbs.
- Kittens and puppies younger than 12 weeks.