

## **Is Your Female Cat Getting Spayed? Here's What to Know!**

### **Arrival and Intake:**

Preparation starts the night before surgery. Make sure to give any medications you were instructed to use pre-operatively and that your cat has no access to food after 10pm. On the day of surgery, please plan to arrive with your cat at 8 am. One of our surgery technicians will guide you through intake forms and we will need a person 18 years or older to sign the surgical consent form.

### **Pre-Surgery Process:**

As soon as your pet is admitted, they will receive an oral medication to help them stay calm during their stay and reduce the amount of general anesthesia they need for surgery. Your pet's surgeon will perform an intake exam and we will run preoperative blood work if it has not been done within the past three months. Once the surgeon has cleared your pet for surgery they will prepare your pet's custom anesthetic plan.

### **Comfort and Care During Surgery:**

We take many measures to ensure your cat's comfort during the procedure. She will receive local and general anesthesia while our skilled surgical team monitors her closely using state-of-the-art monitoring equipment.

### **The Surgical Procedure and Recovery:**

Once your cat is fully anesthetized, the surgeon will make an incision into her lower abdomen and remove her ovaries and part or all of her uterus. Her nails will also be trimmed if needed. You will receive a call when the procedure is complete and your pet is awake. We will arrange a pick up time, usually between 3pm and 5pm, where one of her nurses will give you written instructions and go over home care instructions.

### **Post-Surgery Care at Home:**

It is recommended to keep your cat in a quiet, confined space like a bathroom or bedroom for a couple of days so that you can restrict their activity and monitor their healing. . Provide them with a litter box, food, and water within easy reach.

Your pet may be affected by the anesthetic drugs and act differently than normal for a few days, so keeping them away from hazardous places and other pets in the house is a good idea. . Keeping your cat confined minimizes their activity level and allows them to rest and heal. It is important for you to ensure that they are eating, drinking, and eliminating normally during recovery. Remember to check your cat's surgical site at least once a day to ensure there are no signs of infection such as redness, swelling, or discharge. If your pet was sent home with a collar to prevent them from licking their incision, it is important to make sure they wear it at all times while they are healing.

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We're here to support you and your pet through every step of the process! If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to reach out to our team 617-332-7030.