

Preparing for Your Pet's Growth Removal Procedure? Here's What You Need 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 pet has no access to food after 10pm. On the day of surgery, please plan to arrive 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 probably receive an oral medication to help them stay calm during their stay and reduce the amount of general anesthesia they need for surgery. Once your pet is admitted, 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, and your pet's surgeon will perform an intake exam. As long as there are no new and concerning findings on the bloodwork or upon intake that would postpone surgery, 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:

The Doctor will surgically remove the growth using state of the art equipment, including electrocautery, surgical CO2 laser and cryoablation. Depending on the site, external skin sutures may be used to close the incision. Recovery and restrictions vary depending on the size and location of the growth removed. Most surgical sites take 10-14 days of restricted activity to heal.

If your pet has skin sutures they can resume normal activity once they are removed. You will receive written instructions and a veterinary nurse will go over home-care instructions when you arrive to pick up your pet.

Post-Surgery Care at Home:

Your pet may come home wearing an Elizabethan collar (cone collar) depending on the location of the growth removed to keep them from licking at the surgery site. It is recommended to keep them in a quiet confined space like a bedroom or bathroom to aid in their healing process and inhibit any excessive movement. Keep food, and water within easy reach and for cats, a litter box as well. Dogs should only go outside on leash until they are healed from surgery and exercise will need to be limited.

Your pet may be affected by the anesthetic drugs and act differently than normal for a few days. Remember to ensure they are eating, drinking and eliminating normally. Remember to check the surgical incision at least once a day to ensure there is no sign of abnormal swelling or discharge. If your pet has skin sutures, you will need to return for them to be removed 10-14 days after surgery.

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.