



# Dog Desexing Informations

## The Day Before Surgery

### Food

Your dog will need to be fasted the night before. Give them their dinner as normal and then take all food away at 8pm. Access to water is permitted at all times.

### Bathing

We ask that you bath your dog the day before surgery so their coat and skin is as clean as possible. This will minimise any chance of infection around the surgery site.

### Vaccinations

For the health of all of our patients, all dogs need to be up to date with their vaccinations. If they are due for a booster we can ensure they get it on the day of surgery.

### Options to consider:

#### Pre-Anaesthetic Blood Test

We offer this in-house service to test your dog's primary organ function before anaesthesia. Some dogs will appear normal on the outside but we sometimes detect underlying health issues which may affect the planned surgery. This test is always recommended by our vets but we do make it optional for young healthy dogs. We can discuss this further with you on the day. While your dog is in hospital we are able to do any other treatments that you request eg.



- microchip implantation
- nail clips
- heartworm injection
- hip/elbow dysplasia checks
- flea treatments

## On the Day of Surgery

### Arrival

We will book a pre-surgery appointment between 8am and 9am on the day of surgery. We will go through any questions you have and get you to sign the hospital admission and consent form. We are happy for you to help settle your dog into their bed for the day. Keeping your dog comfortable and stress-free is very important to us. You are welcome to bring any toy or comforting bedding that is familiar to your dog while they are with us.

### In Hospital

After your dog has been admitted they will have a full examination by the veterinarian and pre-anaesthetic blood tests will be done at this time. If the blood tests are normal they will then be given a premedication injection, pain relief and antibiotics plus lots of pats and reassurance.



### Surgery

We believe that the comfort and safety of your dog is most important and our anaesthetics reflect this. We also include intravenous fluid therapy for no extra charge which increases safety and ensures a quicker recovery time. During the anaesthesia, your dog will be carefully monitored by an experienced and registered nurse. The surgery is performed in our sterile theatre by one of our experienced surgeons. A small tattoo will be placed in their left ear as a permanent indicator of your dog's sterilisation status. For the comfort of your dog in most cases we will only use internal sutures. After surgery your dog will be given further pain relief and made sure they are kept comfortable and warm.

## Going Home

### Discharge Time

We will call you after the procedure to confirm the time to pick your pet up. We will give you full after-care instructions including the use of pain relief medications. We also offer a 7-day post-op check for no charge – please make an appointment for this with one of our nurses.



### Keeping Those Stitches In

As we usually only use internal sutures, we can usually avoid the use of the 'buckets'. If your dog does need a bucket, we have more comfortable options available such as our very popular inflatable collars

### At Home

Your dog will need somewhere warm and quiet to rest and recover from their surgery. You will need to check the surgical site daily and we will discuss what to look for during your discharge appointment.

### Exercise

To avoid complications with the surgery site it is essential that any exercise, jumping or barking is kept to a minimum. We recommend only short lead walks for 14days after surgery.

### Need Further Info?

Do you have any further questions? Would you like a tour of our facilities? Please call Foothills Animal Hospital on 9497 7488 to speak to one of our friendly staff.