

Why Should I Get ...?

BLOODWORK:

Here at Grand Traverse Veterinary Hospital we recommend having pre-surgical blood work run on pets going under anesthesia under the age of seven years and require it for pets seven years and older. While most healthy animals are at minimal risk for complications during an elective surgery such as a neuter or spay, there is always a chance that an animal might have an underlying problem that might not manifest itself until the animal is put under anesthesia. It's important to ensure that your pet can properly process and then eliminate the anesthetic he or she is given. Before performing any procedure requiring anesthesia we run tests to confirm that your pet's organs are functioning properly and to reveal any hidden health conditions that could put your pet at risk. The collection of a blood sample before anesthesia or as a part of a wellness evaluation is not just for detecting abnormalities, but also to confirm the health status and to establish baseline values for overall health in the future. Any changes in health can be detected when the parameters change from baseline but remain in the normal range for the general population. In other words, when a normal range is established for your pet, small changes become meaningful.



IV FLUIDS AND CATHETER:

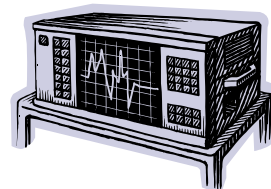
We recommend all pets undergoing general anesthesia have an IV line and a fluid drip. Having an IV catheter inserted into a vein and administering fluids to a pet provides greater safety by:



- Helping to maintain blood pressure and shock during the anesthetic procedure
- Replacing blood or other fluid loss
- Preventing dehydration during and after the procedure
- Providing an access route for emergency drugs should complications arise
- Speeding recovery

ECG:

An ECG would possibly identify an underlying cardiac problem.



When you bring your pet in for his or her surgery, please allow 5-10 minutes of time to fill out the paperwork, make decisions on other options available, such as implanting a microchip and also to answer any questions or concerns you may have before leaving.

FOLLOW THESE IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE BRINGING IN YOUR PET FOR SURGERY:

- No food after 8:00 p.m.
- Water can remain available at all times
 - Drop off between 8 – 8:30am
- If you would like an estimate prior to surgery, please just ask.
We would be happy to provide one for you.
- Discuss any concerns and ask any questions you may have. We want you to understand what we are doing, and why we are doing it.