

Instructions prior to surgery

Food and Water:

Adult dogs and cats - Do not give your adult cat or dog food after 10 p.m. the night before surgery, and do not give any food or water the morning of surgery. If your pet accidentally eats the morning of surgery, just let a staff member know at drop-off. Surgery can still be done 6 hours after the meal.

Puppies and kittens - Young pets should not be fasted since they can not maintain normal sugar levels throughout the day. Please feed half of the normal amount they would receive at breakfast.

Rabbits - Rabbits can not be fasted. They should have food and water available up to surgery time and shortly after they recover from the anesthesia. Please bring in your rabbit's regular food at drop off.

Flea and heartworm prevention:

Veterinarian approved flea and tick preventives (ProMeris, Advantage, Frontline) can be applied prior to or right after surgery. Over the counter flea preventives (Heartz, BioSpot, Sergeants) are potentially toxic and should never be used. Flea collars are also toxic, especially in combination with anesthesia and will be discarded in the trash if present during exam.

Veterinarian prescribed heartworm prevention (Advantage Multi, Interceptor, Heartgard) is safe to give prior to or after surgery.

Prescription medications:

If your pet has been given any prescription or over the counter medications during the month prior to surgery, please let us know to ensure that there will not be any complications with the anesthetic or pain medications. If your pet is on a long term medication (i.e. phenobarbital, prednisone, insulin), contact us or your regular veterinarian prior to surgery to determine if your pet should receive the medication the day of the procedure.

Nursing Animals:

If your female dog or cat had a litter recently, please ensure that the puppies have been separated from the mother for at least 2 weeks prior to surgery. The presence of milk in the mammary glands increases the risk of infection and delayed healing.

Pediatric surgeries:

Rascal routinely spays and neuters puppies and kittens as young as 8 weeks who weigh at least 2 lbs. Because younger pets may have a higher risk from the anesthetic, each patient will be individually evaluated prior to surgery. If a pediatric patient is not considered to be healthy enough for surgery, you will be asked to reschedule for a later time.

All pets must be restrained upon arrival. Please bring dogs on a secure leash or crate. All cats and rabbits must come in a crate. If you do not have a crate or leash, please let a staff member know prior to getting your pet out of the car.