



THE BARRACKS
VET SURGERY
MOSMAN

IF YOUR PET NEEDS SURGERY

Prior to Your Pet's Surgery

With any procedure requiring a general anaesthetic or sedation, fasting is critical and required at least 6 hours before. Your pet should be given their evening meal no later than 9pm the night before surgery. Water can be readily available throughout the night but must be removed first thing the next morning. Fasting is very important and ensures that food has been digested in time for the procedure. An empty stomach will prevent your pet from vomiting and inhaling any food into their lungs whilst anaesthetised, causing life threatening complications.

As your pet will be unable to swim or bathe for at least ten days following until the sutures are removed, we recommend that dogs have a bath before surgery. This ensures the surgery site is as clean as possible, ready for the sterile procedure.

The day of surgery

Ideally, you will arrive at the Barracks Vet Surgery between 9 – 10 am that morning. This gives patients time to settle in and also allows us time to perform a physical examination and any tests before the procedure begins. Most animals will be able to go home around 5pm the same day.

Pre-anaesthetic blood testing

It is impossible for a vet to assess an animal's internal organs from physical examination alone. In addition to this, our pets are unable to tell us exactly how they are feeling and are excellent at masking their physical ailments.

Anaesthetic drugs that will be given to patients prior to and during a procedure will be processed by the kidneys and liver. If these important organs are not functioning properly, their ability to process these drugs are reduced, placing your pet at risk. The pre-anaesthetic blood test assesses the enzymes in the kidneys and liver and will alert your vet to any abnormalities which might be present. This invaluable detection will prevent your pet being placed at risk during anaesthesia, giving us and yourselves complete peace of mind. We recommend a pre anaesthetic blood test (PAB) for every patient and especially for those over the age of 7 years, as their kidney and liver function is more likely to be compromised.