



## ADMITTING YOUR PET FOR SURGERY

WE UNDERSTAND THAT IF YOUR PET IS GOING TO REQUIRE SURGERY THAT THIS WILL BE A STRESSFUL DAY FOR YOU. THE INFORMATION BELOW MAY SERVE TO ANSWER SOME OF YOUR QUESTIONS.

**FASTING:** ALL SURGERY PATIENTS ARE REQUIRED TO BE FASTED PRIOR TO SURGERY. THAT MEANS NO SOLID FOOD AFTER 9PM THE DAY BEFORE SURGERY. WATER SHOULD NEVER BE WITHHELD.

### **ADMISSION INFORMATION:**

SURGERY PATIENTS ARE ADMITTED BETWEEN 7.30 – 9.00AM  
MONDAY TO FRIDAY

A CONTACT PHONE NUMBER OR MULTIPLE NUMBERS FOR THE DAY – IT IS VITAL WE ARE ABLE TO CONTACT YOU.

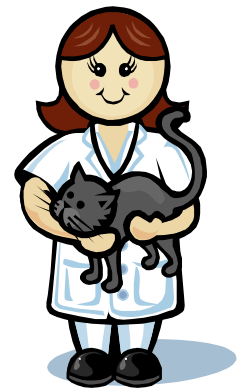
MEDICATION NAMES THAT YOUR PET MAY CURRENTLY BE TAKING

### **WHEN WILL THE SURGERY BE PERFORMED?**

IT IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR US TO GIVE YOU AN EXACT TIME WHEN YOUR PET WILL BE OPERATED ON. THE THEATRE NURSES AND VETS WILL SCHEDULE THE ORDER OF SURGERIES ACCORDING TO URGENCY, LENGTH OF PROCEDURE AND STERILITY FACTORS.

### **WHAT HAPPENS IN A GENERAL ANAESTHETIC?**

- ALL SURGERIES START WITH A "PREMED". THIS IS AN INJECTION THAT CONTAINS DRUGS THAT PROVIDE PAIN RELIEF AND RELIEVE ANXIETY. PAIN RELIEF WORKS BETTER IF GIVEN BEFORE AND DURING SURGERY AND PRE-MEDS GREATLY REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF ANAESTHETIC WE NEED TO USE. THIS MAKES THE ANAESTHETIC SAFER.
- THE FULL OR GENERAL ANAESTHETIC STARTS WITH AN INJECTION THAT ALLOWS US TO PLACE A BREATHING TUBE. THEN THE ANAESTHETIC IS MAINTAINED WITH A GAS DELIVERED BY THE BREATHING TUBE. GAS ANAESTHETICS (ISOFLURANE IN OUR CLINIC) ARE CONSIDERED THE SAFEST OPTION IN MOST SURGERIES AND ALLOW QUICK RECOVERY.



- DURING ANAESTHESIA, WE CAN MONITOR HEART RATE, BREATHING RATE, THE AMOUNT OF OXYGEN DISSOLVED IN THE BLOOD, AND THE ELECTRICAL ACTIVITY IN THE HEART (ECG).
- AFTER SURGERY, ONCE SAFE, THE BREATHING TUBE IS REMOVED AND YOU PET MONITORED BY A NURSE UNTIL FULLY RECOVERED. YOU MAY SEE AN OCCASIONAL COUGH OVER THE NEXT 24 HOURS CAUSED FROM IRRITATION ASSOCIATED WITH THE BREATHING TUBE.

### **DISCHARGE:**

THE NURSES TOGETHER WITH THE VETERINARIANS ASSESS WHEN A PATIENT CAN BE DISCHARGED. GENERALLY THE PATIENT NEEDS TO BE ABLE TO WALK WITH ASSISTANCE. IF A PATIENT IS TAKING A LONG TIME TO RECOVER, OR SURGERY HAS BEEN PERFORMED LATER IN THE DAY IT MAY BE ADVISED THAT THEY SHOULD STAY OVERNIGHT.

## **HAVING A PET IN HOSPITAL**

HAVING A PET ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL CAN BE A STRESSFUL EXPERIENCE FOR OWNERS. OUR HOSPITAL HAS BEEN SET UP TO MINIMISE THE IMPACT OF SEPARATION. JUST LIKE HUMAN HOSPITALS HOWEVER, WE NEED TO INSIST ON SOME RULES SO THAT THE HOSPITAL CAN RUN EFFECTIVELY AND WE CAN GET YOUR PET HOME, WHERE THEY BELONG.

### **MORNING ROUNDS:**

AT THE START OF OUR CLINIC DAY THE VET AND NURSE WILL REVIEW ALL IN-PATIENTS AND WILL UPDATE YOUR NOMINATED CONTACT PERSON, IT IS IMPORTANT WE ARE GIVEN A CONTACT NUMBER THAT PROVIDES US WITH THE BEST CHANCE OF CATCHING YOU. THE VET WILL DISCUSS YOUR PET'S PROGRESS, THE DAY'S PLAN, AND WILL UP DATE YOU ON TEST RESULTS.

### **VISITING:**

YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO VISIT YOUR PET IN HOSPITAL.

### **DURING THE DAY:**

DURING THE DAY YOUR PET IS MONITORED BY THE NURSES, WHO REPORT TO OUR VETS.

### **EVENING:**

AT THE CLOSE OF OUR CLINIC DAY THE VET AND NURSE WILL AGAIN REVIEW ALL IN-PATIENTS; OUR VETERINARIANS DISCUSS OPTIONS TOGETHER, FOR THEIR PATIENTS.

WE HAVE A NURSE THAT LIVES AT THE CLINIC AND CHECKS OUR IN-PATIENTS OVERNIGHT WHEN REQUIRED.

## DOGGIE – DID YOU KNOW

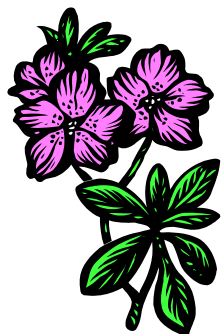
YOUR DOG'S MOST IMPORTANT SENSES ARE SMELL AND HEARING



**SMELL:** 1 MILLION TIMES MORE EFFICIENT THAN IN HUMANS, CAN DETECT UNDERGROUND GAS LEAKS, AND DRUGS WRAPPED IN 27 LAYERS OF POLYTHENE.

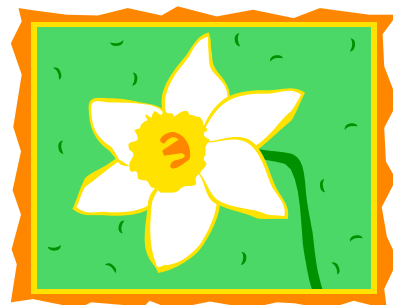
**HEARING:** UP TO 20 METRES AWAY, CAPABLE OF DETECTING DIFFERENCES IN CAR SOUNDS, PEOPLE'S FOOTSTEPS AND ARE EXTREMELY RECEPTIVE TO OUR BODY LANGUAGE AND THE BODY LANGUAGE OF OTHER DOGS.

**SIGHT:** ARE THE ACTUALLY COLOUR BLIND? SIMILAR RANGE OF COLOURS AS PEOPLE WHO ARE RED/GREEN COLOUR BLIND. GREEN, YELLOW, RED AND ORANGE ALL APPEAR AS SHADES OF YELLOW. THEY CAN SEE VIOLET, INDIGO AND BLUE CLEARLY. IMAGINE HOW DIFFICULT IT IS FOR YOUR DOG TO SEE A YELLOW BALL ON THE GREEN LAWN!



### DANGERS IN THE GARDEN

THERE ARE MANY PLANTS COMMONLY FOUND IN HOME GARDENS WHICH COULD PROVE LETHAL TO DOGS ESPECIALLY TO PUPPIES (WHO CHEW EVERYTHING) – NOT TO MENTION YOURSELF AND YOUR CHILDREN.



BELOW IS A LIST OF SOME OF THOSE PLANTS.

**AZALEA (ENTIRE PLANT):** PARALYSIS OF THE MUSCLES, INCLUDING THE HEART. DEPRESSION OF THE CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM. SOMETIMES FATAL.

**BIRD OF PARADISE (SEED PODS):** NAUSEA, VOMITING AND DIARRHOEA.

**DAFFODIL (BULB):** SEVERE VOMITING AND DIARRHOEA, TREMBLING, CONVULSIONS AND SOMETIMES DEATH.

**DAPHNE (ENTIRE PLANT):** BURNING AND ULCERATION OF STOMACH AND INTESTINES, BLOODY VOMITING AND DIARRHOEA.

**POINSETTIA (LEAVES AND STEMS):** DIARRHOEA, ABDOMINAL CRAMPS AND DELIRIUM. SAP CAN CAUSE SKIN IRRITATION AND IF RUBBED IN EYES, BLINDNESS.

**RHUBARB (LEAVES):** VOMITING, SEVERE ABDOMINAL PAIN, MUSCLE CRAMPS AND IN LARGE QUANTITIES, CONVULSIONS, COMA AND DEATH.



## DOGS AND KIDS: MINIMISING THE RISK OF BITES

DID YOU KNOW THAT ONE THIRD OF ALL DOG BITES INVOLVE CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 14 YEARS? THIS IS A TIMELY REMINDER TO TAKE CARE; BELOW ARE SOME TIPS TO HELP MINIMIZE THE RISK.

- ❖ SUPERVISE - PUT YOUR DOG OUT OF THE ROOM IF UNABLE TO SUPERVISE THE CHILDREN AND THE DOG AT THE SAME TIME. REWARD YOUR CHILD AND DOG FOR PLAYING QUIETLY WHEN YOU ARE PRESENT.
- ❖ PLAY - BITES OFTEN OCCUR WHEN A CHILD IS ROUGH OR UNRELENTING, TEACH YOUR CHILDREN TO NEVER HURT OR TEASE OR BE OVER EXCITED AROUND THE DOG.
- ❖ SLEEPING DOGS - NEVER APPROACH A SLEEPING DOG AS THEY MAY ACT DEFENSIVELY IF WOKEN, IT IS BEST TO CALL THE DOG FROM A DISTANCE.
- ❖ FEEDING — MAKE THIS AN ADULT’S ONLY ACTIVITY AND TEACH YOUR KIDS TO NEVER APPROACH A DOG THAT IS EATING.
- ❖ BEHAVIOURAL TRAITS — TEACH YOUR CHILDREN TO RECOGNISE THE SIGNS THAT A DOG MAY FEEL THREATENED; GROWLING, LIFTING LIPS, HAIR RAISED ON BACK..
- ❖ APPROACHING — TEACH YOUR CHILDREN NEVER TO APPROACH A STRANGE DOG AND ALWAYS ASK AN OWNER IT IS SAFE TO PAT THEIR DOG.

**REMEMBER BANNOCKBURN VETERINARY CLINIC CONDUCTS PUPPY PRE-SCHOOL AND K9 GOOD MANNERS ON A REGULAR BASIS.**

**CHEERS FROM THE TEAM AT BANNOCKBURN VETERINARY CLINIC**

