

# TUCSON SMALL ANIMAL HOSPITAL, LTD.

## SURGICAL INFORMATION FORM

### Anesthetic Procedures and Risks

We use a combination of pre-anesthetic medications and injectable and/or inhalant anesthetics to achieve optimum levels of anesthesia that we feel are the safest for your pet.

For most procedures, your pet is anesthetized and then intubated (insertion of a tube into the trachea or windpipe). This will ensure that your pet is able to receive oxygen at all times and prevents aspiration of any fluid into the lungs.

### Monitoring and Pain Management

Monitoring of patients during anesthesia is accomplished in two ways. First, a veterinary assistant is with your pet continuously from the beginning of the anesthetic procedure until recovery. Second, we have a computerized monitor that records: heart rate; pulse rate; oxygen levels; respiration; and rectal temperature.

Our hospital strongly believes in compassionate, quality medical care for our patients. As a result, all surgical patients will receive pain management at the time of the procedure. Additionally, depending on the procedure, pain medication may be prescribed for you to use at home. Complete information regarding home care will be given to you at the time of discharge. We utilize this pain relief protocol to reduce any discomfort that may be experienced and also to aid in a quicker recovery by your pet. If you feel that your pet is experiencing any pain or discomfort after the procedure, please contact our office immediately.

### Intravenous Catheterization and Fluids

In many anesthetic cases, we will place an IV catheter and administer fluids. This allows us to have quick, available access to the circulatory system in case of an

unforeseen emergency. The fluids help provide support to the circulatory system and prevent dehydration, as well as aid in a quicker recovery from anesthesia.

**It is important for you to understand there is always a risk of anesthetic and surgical complications anytime these procedures are performed. We strive to take the highest quality care of your pet and take all the added precautions we can to avoid potential problems. Thank you for entrusting your pet to us.**

Client initials \_\_\_\_\_