

# Explanation of an Itemized Dental Treatment Plan

## Prior to your pet's procedure:

- **Pre-Dental Examination** – A physical exam by the veterinarian to ensure your pet is healthy for his/her dental procedure. This is a great opportunity for the veterinarian to identify any other physical concerns or additional needs for your pet. Some pets may have antibiotics or pain relief medication prescribed at this visit, depending on the severity of their dental needs. Pet owners will be alerted to needed vaccinations, heartworm & tick disease blood test, fecal intestinal parasite exam, optional microchip placement, and monthly heartworm-flea-tick-intestinal parasite preventative. After all of your questions are answered, all paperwork and signatures will be completed.
- **Pre-Anesthesia Blood Analysis** – These tests ensure selection of the proper anesthesia, by giving information on the current health condition of your pet's blood and other internal systems. Using this analysis we can help your pet's anesthesia and recovery go smoothly.
  - Complete Blood Count
  - 10 or 17 Blood Chemistry Profile

## The day of your pet's procedure:

- **IV Catheter Placement** – A small flexible catheter is placed in your pet's front leg for safe & easy administration of pre-anesthesia, pain relief, or emergency medications. This is also how your pet will receive supportive fluids throughout the procedure.
- **Pre-Anesthesia & Induction** – These medications relax and prepare your pet for having their anesthesia/oxygen breathing tube placed.
- **Isoflurane Gas 30 minutes** – This portion of anesthesia includes a sterilized endotracheal tube for breathing, tube placement, 30 minutes of oxygen and isoflurane gas anesthesia, and monitoring of vital signs by your pet's doctor and certified technician as he/she becomes fully anesthetized.
- **Additional Isoflurane Gas** – Additional oxygen, isoflurane gas anesthesia for more extensive procedures.
- **IV Fluid Administration** – Fluids are administered throughout your pet's procedure to assist with hydration, proper blood pressure, and a smooth quick recovery. IV fluid administration includes the fluids, the IV administration set, a fluid extension set, and continuous monitoring by the doctor and technician throughout delivery of fluids.
- **IV Fluid Pump** – The fluid pump delivers a customized amount of fluids to your pet, at a calculated rate. The pump will also sound a safety alert signal if the fluid rate changes for any reason.
- **Blood Pressure Surgical Monitor** – While your pet is anesthetized, this monitor gives continuous vital sign readings to the doctor and technician for blood pressure, blood oxygen levels, and heart rate.
- **Toe Nail Trim** – As a courtesy, we will give your pet a stress free nail trim while they are under anesthesia.
- **Pre & Post Dental/Surgical Pain Relief** – Pets that need tooth extractions or extensive cleaning around and under their gums, will need pain relief. Pain free pets recover much quicker, due to reduction in stress and inflammation.
  - *Pain Management drugs will be listed below*
- **Penicillin Injection** – An injection of penicillin will be given to prevent infection due to minor gum irritation from scaling teeth or tooth extractions.
- **Digital Dental Radiograph Study** – Digital x-rays are taken to view your pet's teeth beneath the gum-line. The veterinarian will look for abnormalities in the tooth, the ligaments that hold the tooth in place, the bones that hold the teeth in place, and they will look for empty pockets around the tooth that may hold infection.
- **Sterile Dental/Surgical Instrument Pack** – Instruments used to examine, clean and extract teeth are always heat sterilized before use on a pet.
- **Dental Prophylaxis by Severity of Dental Disease** – The prophylaxis (prophy) includes before and after photos of your pet's teeth; the entire mouth is mapped and recorded for shape, occlusion, irregularities and missing teeth; the gums are examined and periodontal pocket depth is recorded so the veterinarian can make recommendations for long term tooth health; large amounts of tartar are removed from the teeth; teeth are ultrasonically scaled and hand scaled to remove remaining tartar and deposits; the area under the gums are cleaned and made smooth; teeth are polished to repair microscopic defects to the enamel (*future deposits won't collect as easily*); teeth are rinsed above and below the gum-line with a special antiseptic rinse, to kill remaining bacteria and leave the mouth clean and fresh!
- **Dental Nerve Block** – A local anesthetic is applied in strategic locations to numb tooth extraction sites. By using a nerve block, your pet will need less gas anesthesia, because he/she will remain comfortable during the procedure and throughout recovery.
- **Tooth Extractions** – Teeth that are broken, infected, loose, show bone decay beneath the gum line, or have sensitive spots may be removed by the veterinarian to improve the long term health and comfort of your pet.
- **Fluoride Application** – After your pet's procedure is complete, fluoride is applied to decrease tooth sensitivity, and to help protect and strengthen the remaining teeth.
- **Daily Technician Care of Dental/Surgery Patient** – Patients are kept warm throughout their procedure using a specialized surgical warming pad, and patients are monitored and kept warm, clean, and safe throughout recovery. The IV catheter is removed and a leg wrap is placed to prevent bleeding once your pet has recovered.
- **Hospitalization of Dental/Surgery Patient** – Patients in the hospital are kept clean, safe and comfortable throughout their stay. Personal items such as collars and leashes are kept in small baskets outside of each personal recovery kennel. Blankets and toys from home will be placed with your pet for the familiar scent of family.
- **Antibiotics to go home** – In the case of severe infection or multiple tooth extractions, antibiotics may be needed for proper healing.