

Before the anaesthetic or sedative

- Please remember not to feed your pet any food from 10pm the night before the anaesthetic or sedative.
- Water does not need to be withheld before sedation or anaesthesia.
- It would help us if dogs are walked on a lead on the morning of the operation, to allow them to empty their bladder and bowels. Please try not to let them get too dirty!
- Cats are best kept indoors overnight, so that there is no risk of them not coming home on time, nor of eating anything overnight!
- Rabbits should be not be starved of food or water at any time.

Your operation is:

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on..... at.....

with.....

RINGWOOD HOSPITAL

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Ringwood

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01425 480849 (Fax)

Admin@cedarvets.com
(e-mail)

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VERWOOD SURGERY

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01202 825217

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01202 861622

**ANAESTHETICS
AND
SEDATIVES**



This is one of a series of information handouts written by our vets and nurses for our clients and their pets

When you go into hospital, you naturally expect the best and very latest treatment, and we believe that our pets deserve a similar approach.

The pre-anaesthetic examination

We routinely weigh and examine all patients prior to anaesthesia or sedation. This will be done at your previous consultation and/or by the nurse on the morning of the procedure. The nurse will also check all the details to make sure that there are no misunderstandings. **Please allow ten minutes for her to do this when you drop off your pet.**

Pre-anaesthetic blood test

We advise carrying out this test on all pets which are over 10 years old. It involves a single blood test, on which we run some basic tests in our Hospital laboratory. These tests, though by no means exhaustive, will give us a good idea of how well the liver and kidneys are working. Problems may not be

apparent on a normal examination, and therefore the blood test helps us choose which anaesthetic to use on your pet. We may occasionally recommend an intravenous drip to help the kidneys and heart during the anaesthetic or sedative.

General anaesthesia

We use a variety of anaesthetic agents at the Hospital, and this allows us to choose the most appropriate for your pet. Our standard protocol uses Rapi-novet (propofol) and Isoflurane. Both of these anaesthetics are recognised as among the safest available to us. They also wear off relatively quickly, so that your pet is up and about sooner.

As with human anaesthetics, there are occasionally individual reactions to these drugs. These can be very serious, but these reactions are fortunately very rare indeed.

All of our patients will be closely monitored both during, and for the whole period that they are recovering from, their anaesthetic.

Sedatives

Several different types of sedative are available to us. Their main advantages are that some have an 'antidote' to allow your pet to wake up quickly, and this enables us to allow your pet home sooner. They are also cheaper than an anaesthetic. However, they are not always safer, and it is possible to have serious reactions to sedatives in the same way that it is with a general anaesthetic, but likewise, these are very rare indeed.

Contact phone number

It is very important that we can contact you on the day of your pet's anaesthetic, particularly if we are running a pre-anaesthetic blood test and may want to discuss the results with you. Please make sure you leave a number where we can contact you during the day.

All anaesthetics carry some risk. It is our aim to reduce those risks to a minimum.