



**RIVERSIDE  
VETERINARY**

## **Procedure Handout Information and Tips! Please read!**

Hey, Mom and/or Dad! The doctors at Riverside Veterinary Hospital told me they recommend having you pick up pre-anesthetic medications for my upcoming anesthetic/sedation procedure! These medications are going to help me feel my best that day!

Here is what the vet said we will use and why:

### **1. ANTI-ANXIETY MEDICATIONS**

- Trazodone (tablet): Dogs
- Gabapentin (capsule or liquid): Cats (and sometimes added in addition to trazodone for dogs)

These are anxiolytics (to reduce the fear and stress caused by a stay in the hospital for the day).

**They are given the night before and again 2 hours before my appointment.**

It does cause some sedation when first used and that helps me relax while hospitalized. This may also help reduce the amount of anesthetic medications I need at the hospital which means a decrease in their side effects and a safer procedure for me.

Please be prepared that I, along with most patients, may be much sleepier at home than when I am at the hospital.

They recommend starting the medication early enough to get in 2 doses prior to any visit or appointment. You can give me this with meals or with a treat! This means giving one dose the night before then the morning of the procedure.

### **2. ANTI-NAUSEA / ANTI-VOMITING MEDICATION**

- Cerenia (tablet in foil): Cats and Dogs

This is an antiemetic (reduces my nausea and vomiting) that lasts for 24 hours. Nausea can be caused by anesthetic medications and an antiemetic helps me feel better throughout the procedure. I will be more likely to eat after surgery and return to normal when I receive this medication before my procedure.

Please give this the evening BEFORE my procedure, an hour before my dinner meal and trazodone.

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**IF YOU WERE GIVEN MEDICATIONS TO ADMINISTER PRIOR TO YOUR PET'S PROCEDURE BUT DO NOT ADMINISTER THEM, ADDITIONAL COSTS MAY BE CHARGED FOR US TO GIVE THEM DURING THEIR VISIT.**

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## **Here are some additional tips to consider in preparation for my procedure!**

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1. **IF I AM >3m old: Please fast me for at least 10 hours prior to my procedure.** I can still have water available at all times unless the DVM specifically states not to.

**IF I AM <3m old or a RABBIT: please continue to feed me normally.** I can also have access to water.

2. If I am having surgery that includes an incision (mass removal, spay, neuter, laceration repair, etc), I will not be able to have a bath for at least 2 weeks! So it may be wise to give me a bath **BEFORE** my procedure! This will be a good preparation to help keep my incision clean too!

3. I will be sent home with a cone (aka E-Collar) (automatically included with any spay or neuter). If we already have one at home that you prefer to use, let's make sure it fits me properly. Here is what to look for:

When the cone is on, push it back to my shoulders. If my nose reaches past the end of the cone, it is too small and I will be able to reach around to lick! If my incision or the location of my issue is toward the front of me (upper front leg, ears, eyes) it may work. Feel free to bring it with us to the vet for them to properly size.

\*\*For eye or ear issues, we want to make sure the cone is long enough and firm enough to not bend when I try to rub my head with my front legs or when I try to rub on the floor or couch. Soft cones will not generally be hard enough to protect my eyes.

4. Please plan ahead for my recovery time. I will need, on average, 10-14 days to heal. I know I may act like I can run, jump and play before then, but we all know I may not know what is best for me! The pain medications will give me false security that I am feeling "normal."

Please keep all pets quiet, on leash at all time and resting for 10-14d after surgery.

If you think I will need extra help staying calm, the DVM said we can request more trazodone to help during the recovery period. This will help me relax.

Please call if any questions or concerns: 775-246-5392