

# Information Sheet

## Anaesthetics and operations

When you go into hospital you naturally expect the best and safest treatments. At Hall Court, we believe that your pet deserves a similar approach. ALL anaesthetics and procedures carry some risk, but we have tried to minimise that risk by the routines described below.

### Pre-operative and Post-operative checks.

We examine all patients prior to anaesthesia. This helps us to check if there are other relevant health issues and gives you an opportunity to ask any questions. For all but the smallest procedure, we offer a free check 2-4 days post-operatively to ensure that your pet is recovering normally. There is always a nurse or vet available should you be concerned about your pet's progress after the operation.

### Pre-medication

Nearly all patients admitted for surgery will receive a mild sedative before their operation – a “pre-med”. This means your pet relaxes and settles in better, needs lower anaesthetic doses and has a smoother, more comfortable recovery.

### Pre-operative blood testing

In some pets, extra information on health status can be gained by testing a blood sample. In fact we would rather not anaesthetise animals over 8 years old, or with certain conditions, without a blood test. More information about this can be obtained from the vet.

### Rapinivet and IsoFlo anaesthetics.

These are the most modern anaesthetic agents available to vets and are used extensively for humans. With these agents, animals go to sleep smoothly and wake up quickly, with little 'hangover'. They are safer than older agents and enable more patients to go home sooner and brighter

### Monitoring.

We have a team of nurses who carry out anaesthetic monitoring until your pet is fully recovered. A pulse oximeter which measures pulse rate and monitors oxygen in the blood is used during nearly all operations. Facilities for care onsite before and after surgery include ECG, fluid therapy, heat pads and a laboratory. If your pet requires intravenous fluid therapy – “a drip”, this will be discussed with you.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT PRE-OPERATIVE BLOOD SCREENS ARE AVAILABLE OPTIONS FOR ALL PETS ON REQUEST.**