



### **How to prepare for your pet's surgery**

- Discuss the procedure and pre-anesthetic bloodwork with Dr. McCaskill
- Be sure all vaccines and preventative care are up to date
- Withhold food after 10pm the night before surgery (no need to restrict water)
- Rest assured that your pet is going to receive the best care available!

### **What to do when your pet comes home**

- Chances are your pet will be weak or groggy after surgery. Do not let him/her get too excited.
- Restrain your pet with a leash or put him/her in a carrier when leaving the hospital. This will protect him from additional injury.
- Provide only small amounts of food and water until he/she readjusts to being at home and is recovering. Too much food and water can lead to an upset stomach or vomiting.
- If a special post-surgical diet has been prescribed, follow all instructions carefully.
- Limit your pet's exercise. Climbing stairs, jumping or running may open up sutures or cause nausea.
- Make sure his/her sleeping area is clean, warm and free of drafts.
- Dr. McCaskill may prescribe medication to administer during your pet's recovery. Follow all label instructions carefully.
- Sutures are usually removed 14 days after surgery. Check the area around the incision daily for redness, swelling or drainage. If you detect any irritation contact Dr. McCaskill immediately.
- Try to keep your pet from licking or chewing on the incision. If this is difficult to do, you might want to provide a physical barrier by placing an 'Elizabethan collar' around his/her head.