



Dear Pet Owner:

Please take a few moments to review the information on the back of this form regarding pre-anesthetic blood testing. If you have any questions, please call us and one of our doctors or technicians will be happy to help you.

In order to prepare your pet for surgery, please:

1. Take away all food after 10 p.m. on the evening prior to admission.
2. Do not allow your pet to have anything to eat prior to bringing him/her in between 7:30 – 8:30 a.m. the day of the procedure.
3. Allow your pet to have access to water as usual.
4. Call us to find out if we want you to give your pet his/her regular medication the day of surgery.

**Please complete and bring the enclosed form with your pet on the morning of the procedure**

We will make every effort to reach you by phone the day before this appointment to review these instructions. Please do not hesitate to call us if you have any other questions. The well being of your pet is our greatest concern.

Thank you!

Sincerely,  
The Doctors and Staff of the  
Animal Hospital of Waynesboro

## **Pre-Anesthetic Blood Tests**

Pre-anesthetic blood testing is important in reducing the risk of anesthesia. Every pet should have blood testing before surgery to ensure that the liver and kidneys can handle the anesthetic. Even seemingly healthy animals can have serious organ system problems that cannot be detected without blood testing. If there is a problem, it is much better to find it before it causes anesthetic or surgical complications. Animals that have minor dysfunctions will handle the anesthetic better if they receive IV fluids during surgery. If we detect serious problems, then we will postpone surgery until the problem is corrected.

**ALT (alanine aminotransferase);** an enzyme that becomes elevated with liver disease.

**ALKP (alkaline phosphatase);** an enzyme produced by the biliary tract (liver). Elevated levels can indicate liver disease or Cushing's disease.

**BUN (blood urea nitrogen);** BUN is produced by the liver and is excreted by the kidneys. Testing for it helps to detect liver and kidney abnormalities.

**CREA (creatinine);** a by-product of muscle metabolism and is excreted by the kidneys. Elevated levels can indicate kidney disease or urinary obstruction.

**GLU (blood glucose);** high levels can help diagnose diabetes and can indicate stress – especially cats. Low levels can indicate liver or pancreatic disease.

**TP (total protein);** the level of TP can suggest a variety of conditions including dehydration and diseases of the liver, kidney, or gastrointestinal tract.

**PCV (packed cell volume);** provides information on the amount of red blood cells (RBC's) present in the blood. This test is used to diagnose anemia.