



*"It is our goal to cultivate a collaborative veterinary team that strives to offer honest, compassionate, evolving and exceptional patient care while creating trusting relationships and treating both pets and "parents" like family."*

### **Surgery/Dental Consent Form**

I understand that my veterinarian is recommending soft tissue and/or oral surgery for my pet and that she is doing so because this is in his/her best interest. Patients are routinely treated in this way at Medford Animal Hospital, and meaningful complications are extremely rare.

Because physical examination does not allow us to completely characterize the health of a pet, laboratory work and imaging is often recommended prior to any surgical procedure. This was \_\_\_\_ was not \_\_\_\_ performed prior to the procedure today. The absence of diagnostics leading into a surgical procedure can result in unforeseen consequences perioperatively/post-operatively or prevent us from diagnosing disease that may preclude the logic of performing the planned treatments.

The following are uncommon surgical complications unrelated to sedation/anesthesia (this is not an exhaustive list):

- Razor burn or dermatitis from clipping/scrubbing (mild)
- Allergic reaction to surgical scrub (chlorhexidine) (mild)
- Perioperative hemorrhage (mild to severe)
- Post-operative infection (mild to severe)
- Seroma (pocketing of serous fluid around an incision site) (mild)
- Hematoma (pocketing of blood around an incision site) (mild to severe)
- Dehiscence/opening of incision site (mild to severe)
- Incidental trauma to local structures (i.e. bladder/bowel trauma or ureteral ligation during a spay) (mild to severe)
- Iatrogenic foreign body (i.e. leaving a surgical sponge in a cavity) (moderate to severe)
- Refractory pain (mild to severe)
- Medicinal side effects (antibiotics, pain medications, etc.) (mild to severe)
- Abnormal heart rate/rhythm (mild to severe)
- Cardiopulmonary arrest (severe)
  
- Complications specific to oral surgery: loss of appetite, dysphagia (eating abnormally or differently), chattering, drooling, mild oral or nasal bleeding, opening of extraction sites, oronasal fistula (permanent opening between the oral and nasal cavities—uncommon), aspiration pneumonia (rare), inhaled foreign body (rare), tongue trauma (typically self-inflicted—rare), ocular or neurologic injury from local anesthesia (rare), jaw fracture (rare)

- Complications specific to \_\_\_\_\_:

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I understand that my veterinarian considers the welfare of my pet to be of pivotal importance and will act as an agent in my stead to offer sound medical advice and loving care. I understand that my veterinarian will contact me immediately should any complications arise.

In the event of oral surgery, my veterinarian will contact me after the exam, cleaning and dental radiographs have been performed with recommendations. I am expected to be available by phone today as recommended treatments will NOT BE PERFORMED without my oral consent.

***I will not be available by phone and give my veterinarian permission to perform the treatments she feels are necessary to maximize my pet's oral health. \_\_\_\_\_ (client initials)***

**The following is often recommended after surgical procedures; failure to adhere to the below recommendations may increase the likelihood of complications listed above:**

- Moderate to strict rest for 14+ days (medications may be dispensed to facilitate this)
- E-collar use to prevent self trauma
- Incisional monitoring/care (compresses, NO topicals unless explicitly discussed)
- Wound care (compressing, cleansing, topicals)
- Bandage care (see attached discharge notes if applicable)
- Isolation from other pets in household
- Oral medications (antimicrobials, anti-inflammatories, pain medications, etc.)
- Recheck evaluation(s)

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Type Name:

Best phone number at which to reach me: