

# Ayers Animal Hospital, Inc

## INFORMED CONSENT FORM (UNIVERSAL)

Pet Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Owner's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Pet Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

Sex (circle): Male Female / Neutered Spayed

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Home): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Cell): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Business): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Other): \_\_\_\_\_

Patient Record ID (Hospital Use Only): \_\_\_\_\_

### OTHER PHONE (EMERGENCY):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### PLANNED PROCEDURE:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### QUESTIONNAIRE:

1. WHEN DID YOUR PET LAST EAT OR DRINK?

2. IS YOUR PET CURRENTLY ON ANY MEDICATIONS? PLEASE INCLUDE FLEA/HEARTWORM MEDICATIONS AND SUPPLEMENTS, AS WELL AS TIMES GIVEN:

\_\_\_\_\_

3. IS YOUR PET CURRENT ON FLEA/TICK PREVENTION AND HEARTWORM PREVENTION? IF YES, WHAT TYPE/BRAND, AND WHERE WAS IT PURCHASED?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. IS YOUR PET UP TO DATE ON ALL VACCINES? (IF NOT HERE) WHERE WERE THESE VACCINES GIVEN?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER CONCERNS YOU'D LIKE OUR DOCTOR TO ADDRESS TODAY?

\_\_\_\_\_

6. STAFF NOTES ONLY:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### PRE-ANESTHETIC BLOODWORK/LABORATORY TESTS:

- FULL CHEMISTRY/CBC (Recommended):** Our in-house full chemistry and CBC provides a comprehensive look at your pet's organ function by checking 14 vital parameters, including liver enzymes, kidney enzymes, electrolytes, protein and vital chemistry elements as well as your pet's blood cell counts to check for infections, anemia, or potential issues with blood clotting. This is the most comprehensive option for pre-surgical bloodwork. **(\$150)**
  - "I would like these tests performed on my pet.** I understand that performing these tests allows Ayers Animal Hospital to better assess and the risks associated with anesthesia on organ function, but does not completely eliminate the possibility of anesthetic complications related to organ function." **(CLIENT INITIALS)** \_\_\_\_\_
  - "I decline this test."** **(CLIENT INITIALS)** \_\_\_\_\_
  
- PRE-ANESTHETIC MINI PROFILE/CBC:** Our in-house mini-profile tests for the 6 minimal parameters of organ function by checking basic liver and kidney enzymes, as well as glucose. This profile may miss important aspects of organ function due to its limitations, but may be appropriate for young, otherwise healthy pets. **This option is restricted to patients under the age of 5 years. (\$75)**

- **"I would like these tests performed on my pet.** I understand that this option does **NOT** fully test my pet for issues related to organ function, and that performing this test carries a greater risk of missing potential organ function issues than does a "Full Chemistry/CBC". I understand that, upon pre-surgical examination, the examining veterinarian may discover that my pet does not fall within the realm of "otherwise healthy" and that this test may not be deemed appropriate, at which point I will receive a phone call to discuss other options." (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_
- **"I decline this test."** (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_
- **COAGULATION PROFILE:** This test checks your pet for potential issues with blood clotting, specifically disorders that can cause excessive post-surgical bleeding. This test is beneficial to all breeds prior to surgery, and this test is **STRONGLY** recommended for surgical patients of breeds or mixes predisposed to genetic bleeding disorders, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO: Doberman Pinschers, Basset Hounds, Beagles, German Shepherds, Great Pyrenees, Afghan Hounds, American Cocker Spaniels, Boxers, English Springer Spaniels, Irish Setters, Standard Poodles, Dachshunds, Rottweilers, Miniature Schnauzers, Pembroke Welsh Corgis, Shetland Sheepdogs, and Scottish Terriers. **(\$61.50)**
  - **Failure to perform this test on genetically predisposed breeds may delay diagnosis of potentially life-threatening bleeding disorders. Patients with these disorders may have excessive post-surgical bleeding that can require extreme measures to contain or even fatal hemorrhaging.**
    - Potentially at-risk breed/mix identified: \_\_\_\_\_ (STAFF INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_
  - **"I would like this test to be performed on my pet.** I understand that performing this test does not completely eliminate the risk of post-surgical bleeding, but that this test can help to identify potential issues prior to surgery. (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_
  - **"I decline this test."** (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_
  - **"I understand that Ayers Animal Hospital or its staff has identified my pet as an "at risk" breed for a genetic coagulation disorder. I understand that by neglecting to perform this test prior to surgery, I am placing my pet at risk for potentially life-threatening complications or hemorrhage."** (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_
  - **This test is inappropriate or up to date for this patient.** (STAFF INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_
- **ELHA/HEARTWORM TEST (CANINE ONLY):** This test checks your dog for dangerous heartworm infection and tick-borne illnesses. This test is recommended for dogs **6 months of age or older** and should be repeated yearly. Heartworm infection, caused by mosquitos, causes irreparable heart damage and can cause severe anesthetic complications. The tick-borne infections specific to this test can also cause issues with anesthesia, and can cause excessive bleeding if the infection is active. Heartworm infection and tick-borne illness can be found in BOTH indoor and outdoor dogs. ALL TICK-BORNE ILLNESSES SPECIFIED BY THIS TEST HAVE BEEN FOUND IN OUR GEOGRAPHIC REGION, AS WELL AS BY THIS HOSPITAL. **(\$49.50)**
  - **"I would like this test to be performed on my dog.** I understand that I will receive a phone call with any abnormal results of this test to discuss my options." (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_
  - **"I decline this test.** I understand that my dog has been identified as an appropriate age to begin or continue testing for heartworm disease and tick-borne illness, and I understand that if my dog is positive for heartworms or tick-borne illnesses that anesthetic complications may be more common or more severe." (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_
  - **This test is inappropriate or up to date for this patient.** (STAFF INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_
- **FelV/FIV/HEARTWORM TEST (FELINE ONLY):** Our Feline Leukemia Virus/Feline Immunodeficiency Virus/Heartworm test combo tests for the two most detrimental viruses to your cat's health, as well as feline heartworm infection. Feline Leukemia Virus and Feline Immunodeficiency Virus both negatively affect a cat's immune system and can cause your cat to be more susceptible to infections. Feline Leukemia Virus especially can cause your cat to become dangerously anemic. There are no treatments or cures for FeLV or FIV, and both of these viruses are contagious to other cats through saliva. **(\$50)**
  - **It is STRONGLY recommended that your cat be tested for Feline Leukemia Virus and Feline Immunodeficiency Virus infection if your cat has never been tested, is unvaccinated (especially if your cat goes outdoors) or is new to your household.**
  - **"I would like this test performed on my pet.** I understand that I will receive a phone call with any abnormal results of this test to discuss my options." (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_
  - **"I decline this test.** I understand that infection with these viruses is detrimental to my cat's health and may cause serious anesthetic complications as well as lifelong difficulties with infections. (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_
  - **This test is inappropriate or up to date for this patient.** (STAFF INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_

#### **DENTAL CLEANINGS AND EXTRACTIONS**

- **DENTAL CLEANINGS:** When a dental is performed on your pet, He or she receives a thorough oral examination under anesthesia. The teeth are cleaned with ultrasonic scaling equipment (using sound waves to dislodge any tartar or plaque), polished (using a lightly abrasive paste to polish away remnants and microgrooves in the enamel), and a fluoride treatment is applied to strengthen the enamel.

- **DENTAL RADIOGRAPHS:** The highest quality of care suggests that your pet should have yearly baseline dental radiographs. Even the most thorough oral exams can't see changes to the roots of your pet's teeth. Baseline radiographs of your pet's full mouth are best taken at yearly dental cleanings to quickly address any potential problems before they become severe or life-threatening. **(\$50 for small dogs/cats up to 25lbs, \$100 for medium dogs up to 50lbs, \$150 for large dogs). Doing full-mouth radiographs will negate any charge associated with extraction-required radiographs.**
  - **"I would like my pet to have routine full-mouth dental radiographs performed.** I understand that this will provide a more comprehensive check of my pet's oral health." (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_
  - **"I decline routine full-mouth dental radiographs at this time.** I understand that this may lead to exacerbation of undiagnosed dental disease at the time of my pet's oral exam." (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_
- **DENTAL EXTRACTIONS:** If issues with your pet's teeth are found, there's a chance your pet may require a dental extraction. Extractions are only necessary if a pet's tooth or teeth are considered unsalvageable. Pets normally do extremely well with dental extractions, and pets can thrive with few teeth or no teeth at all. The cost of extractions is variable based on the tooth/teeth extracted. All pets that receive dental extractions will also receive an injection of pain medication and antibiotics (in some cases), as well as pain medications to go home. **Extractions also require that an x-ray of the tooth or teeth be taken. (cost of x-rays and extractions starts at \$50 for single-rooted teeth (i.e. one incisor and one x-ray) and increases with number and complexity of extractions.)**
  - **"I understand that my pet may require dental extractions after his or her oral exam.** I understand that the cost of these extractions is variable and dependent on the severity of my pet's periodontal disease."
    - **"I do not require a phone call before any teeth are extracted on my pet. (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_**
    - **"Please call me before extracting any teeth on my pet.** If you are unable to reach me in a reasonable amount of time, I would still like my pet's extractions to be carried out." (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_
      - **"I give permission for extractions up to the number of teeth or total extraction cost as designated as follows.** For extractions under or meeting the specified amount or number, I do not require a phone call." Extraction cost/Number: \_\_\_\_\_ (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_
    - **"Please call me before extracting any teeth on my pet.** If you are unable to reach me in a reasonable amount of time, I WOULD NOT like my pet's extractions to be carried out. I understand that neglecting to extract a necessary tooth may be detrimental to my pet's health and may necessitate a second anesthesia or cause painful mouth or systemic conditions due to infection." (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_

#### POST-OPERATIVE ANALGESIA/PAIN MANAGEMENT

- An injection of pain medication for all invasive surgical procedures is **NOT OPTIONAL**. For "routine" spays and neuters, this cost has been built into the price of surgery itself. For surgeries other than this, you are responsible for the cost of this injection (from **\$25-\$35** per injection required. The type of injection and medication given will be determined at the time of surgery). This injection will last 24 hours from the time it's given, however this is not a sufficient duration for most surgical procedures.
- **PAIN MEDICATIONS (TO GO HOME-RECOMMENDED):** We strongly recommend that you take home pain medication for your pet after surgery. The medications we offer vary in cost dependent on what is deemed appropriate for your pet, however the cost generally ranges from **\$12-\$25**. Side-effects from pain medications tend to be mild, if any, and can include lethargy and gastrointestinal distress.
  - Ayers Animal Hospital cannot condone the use of pain medications prescribed for human use. These medications are not formulated for animal absorption and are often of an unsuitable strength or type for pet use.
  - Our standard analgesic protocol is for 3 days of pain medications to take home. If your pet's procedure was lengthy, complicated, or otherwise invasive, it is up to the discretion of Ayers Animal Hospital and its staff to send home medications for a longer duration.
  - **"I would like pain medication to take home for my pet.** I understand that failure to follow the prescription label closely may lead to inaccurate dosing, unforeseen side-effects, or lack of efficacy." (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_
  - **"I decline to take pain medication home for my pet.** I understand that failure to provide adequate pain management is inadvisable and contraindicated in the vast majority of surgical procedures and can lead to enhanced risk of chewing at the surgical site as my pet attempts to provide pain relief. I understand that Ayers Animal Hospital strongly recommends pain medication for all surgical procedures and cannot be held responsible for my pet's discomfort should I choose to decline." (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_

#### HISTOPATHOLOGY

- **HISTOPATHOLOGY:** When a growth or mass is removed from your pet, it does not necessarily mean that your pet has cancer. Many masses are benign, but there is no way to know which masses are "ok" and which masses are dangerous just by first glance. We recommend that all masses/tumors/growths be sent to a veterinary histopathologist, where they can be properly identified, and margins can be analyzed to know if removal was complete. **(\$150, appx.)**
  - **"I would like my pet's tumor to be sent to a veterinary histopathologist for analysis." (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_**
  - **"I would NOT like my pet's tumor to be sent to a veterinary histopathologist.** I understand that without this analysis, there is no way of definitively knowing what type of tumor my pet has or if excision was complete." (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_

### COLD LASER THERAPY

- **COLD LASER THERAPY:** Post-surgical laser therapy is a useful tool in incision healing for your pet. Laser therapy can help your pet's incision to heal faster with less redness, swelling, or irritation. A laser treatment immediately after surgery is a great way to jump-start your pet's healing processes. Laser therapy is not performed on incisions from tumor removals. **(\$15)**
  - **"I would like a therapeutic laser treatment for my pet."** (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_
  - **"I decline therapeutic laser therapy for my pet."** (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_
  - **This treatment is inappropriate for this patient's surgical procedure.** (STAFF INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_

### MICROCHIPPING

- **MICROCHIPPING:** Microchipping can be a valuable tool to help recover your pet in the event that he or she is lost. Ayers Animal Hospital uses the Home Again microchip, which is an anti-migration chip that is internationally recognized. Included in the cost of a microchip is a year's subscription to Home Again's member benefits, including poison control, emergency support, and several other benefits. **(\$62)**
  - **"I would like to have my pet microchipped.** My information at the beginning of this form is accurate, including phone numbers. My email address is : \_\_\_\_\_ (required for registration)." (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_
  - **"I decline having my pet microchipped at this time."** (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_

### POST-OPERATIVE INCISION CARE

- The surgical staff at Ayers Animal Hospital strives to keep your pet as comfortable as possible after surgery, however post-surgical licking and chewing of the incision site is a natural behavior for our pets. Licking and chewing can cause the incision to open or become infected. We **STRONGLY** recommend a method of incision protection after any surgical procedure to prevent this.
  - The simplest and most cost-effective option is an "Elizabethan Collar" (or "e-collar"), a plastic cone that is placed around your pet's neck and held in place with a string, ribbon, or your pet's own collar. For this method to be effective, this collar should be fitted to extend several inches in front of the patient's nose, and when fitted by one of our staff members should not be altered. **(\$8-\$18 dependent on size)** We also offer after-surgery "shirts" specially designed for post-surgical wound care **(\$25-\$42 dependent on size)**
    - **"I would like an e-collar to protect my pet's incision.** I understand that alteration of a previously fitted e-collar may allow my pet to reach the incision, and that Ayers Animal Hospital will not be responsible for treatment or revision of the surgical site in this instance." (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_
    - **"I would like an after-surgery shirt to protect my pet's incision.** I understand that purchase or use of an unapproved product may allow my pet to reach the incision, and that Ayers Animal Hospital will not be responsible for treatment or revision of the surgical site in this instance." (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_
    - **"I decline post-surgical incision protection.** I understand that failure to protect the incision may allow my pet to reach, lick, or chew the incision, and that Ayers Animal Hospital will not be responsible for treatment or revision of the surgical site in this instance. (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_

### PRE-SURGICAL IV CATHETER PLACEMENT

- In an effort to provide the highest standard of care to your pet, an intravenous catheter (IV) will be placed in your pet's vein for the purpose of IV fluid administration during anesthetic procedures. This is not optional. Administration of IV fluids during surgery aids in maintaining your pet's blood pressure and provides access for medications to be given in the case of an anesthetic emergency. Each pet is unique in his or her anatomy, and the vein used will be determined at the time of catheter placement (usually a front limb). Preparation of this site includes a shaved area, and the site may sustain mild bruising that will resolve on its own within a few days. **(\$10)** (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_

### INCLUDED IN THE COST OF MOST ROUTINE ANESTHETIC PROTOCOLS:

1. Full pre-anesthetic exam (\$50 value)
  - a. **New pets we have not seen prior to their surgical appointment are subject to a "New Patient Pre-Anesthetic Exam" fee of \$50. If your pet is deemed "healthy" at the time of this exam, this will be discounted 50%.**
2. Anesthesia Medications
  - a. Induction and maintenance drugs: we use many of the same safe medications as are often used in human medicine. Our gas anesthetic is primarily eliminated through the respiratory tract.
3. Surgical Preparation
  - a. Surgical eye care, intubation to maintain your pet's airway, and preparation of the surgical site.
4. Full Anesthetic Monitoring

- a. **ALL** anesthetized patients are fully monitored by a member of Ayers Animal Hospital's skilled surgical staff from the moment they are anesthetized until they are fully awake. This includes continual monitoring both manually and with state-of-the-art electronic equipment of temperature, heart rate, respiratory rate, blood pressure, oxygen saturation and a full ECG.
5. Post-Operative Analgesia (Pain Medications)
- a. Post-operative pain medication injections are included in the cost of "routine" spays and neuters. These medications last approximately 24 hours post-surgery, at which time you should start your take-home medications.
6. Post-Surgical Discharge Instructions
- a. Hand-tailored for your pet, these discharge instructions include aftercare instructions, wound and bandage care (if applicable), medication lists, and any special instructions concerning your pet's procedure.
- 7. Short-term Flea Treatment**
- a. If fleas or flea dirt are found on your pet at the time of admission, Ayers Animal Hospital and its staff will treat your pet of this infestation **AT YOUR EXPENSE** to prevent infestation of the hospital and other patients. This added cost is **NOT INCLUDED** in the routine costs of anesthesia. This medication is not optional in the case of its necessity. **(\$10) (CLIENT INITIAL) \_\_\_\_\_**
- 8. Anti-Nausea Medications**
- a. A common side effect of general anesthesia is post-operative nausea. Our protocols are designed to minimize this risk to the best of our abilities, however there is a chance that your pet will need an injection of anti-nausea medication. This added cost is **NOT INCLUDED** in the routine costs of anesthesia. This medication is not optional in the case if its necessity due to the risk of post-operative complications should your pet experience vomiting. **(\$15-\$30) (CLIENT INITIALS) \_\_\_\_\_**

**WAIVER AND RELEASE**

The following statements and questions pertain to anesthesia itself, anesthetic emergencies and permissions granted henceforth.

No anesthetic procedure is without risk; however, Ayers Animal Hospital and its staff will make all reasonable efforts to minimize these inherent risks. In the case of a catastrophic anesthetic emergency, all reasonable attempts will be made to preserve the life of your pet. Also in the case of such an emergency, we will attempt to contact you as soon as is feasible at the EMERGENCY NUMBER listed above. If we are unable to reach you, Ayers Animal Hospital and its staff require an advance directive to grant permission for continued treatment.

- o **"In the case of a catastrophic anesthetic emergency concerning my pet, I authorize Ayers Animal Hospital and its staff to perform all reasonable life-preserving measures available until such time as I am able to be contacted or the presiding veterinarian deems the situation resolved or unsalvageable.** I understand that in the case of a catastrophic anesthetic emergency, despite all reasonable attempts made, that there is no guarantee of a pleasant outcome, and I release Ayers Animal Hospital from any liability, financial or otherwise, concerning any emergent situation.

**(CLIENT SIGNATURE):** \_\_\_\_\_ **(DATE):** \_\_\_\_\_

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I am the owner (duly authorized agent for the owner) of the animal described above, that I do hereby give Ayers Animal Hospital, Inc., its agents, servants, and/or representatives full and complete authority to perform general anesthesia and the following surgical procedure as described above and to perform any other procedure that, at their discretion, may be useful to promote the health of the above described pet, and I do hereby and by the presents forever release the said doctor, their agents, servants, or representatives from any and all liability arising from said surgery on said animal. I understand that results cannot be guaranteed and that there are some risks of anesthesia including allergic reactions and other complications that could result in serious injury or in rare instances death. The above information and consents have been explained to my satisfaction and any questions I had concerning my pet's procedure have been answered adequately. I understand that Ayers Animal Hospital or its staff will not be held liable for any decisions I made regarding the treatment of my pet that go against the recommendations of Ayers Animal Hospital itself or its staff.

**(CLIENT SIGNATURE):** \_\_\_\_\_ **(DATE):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Declaw Waiver:**

I, the undersigned or otherwise responsible party for the above listed pet, understand that **"declawing"** is the surgical amputation of the third joint of the toe. I understand that this procedure is an elective procedure that is not supported by the AAFP (American Association of Feline Practitioners) and is strongly opposed by the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA), of which Ayers Animal Hospital is a member.

Declawing is rarely a medically necessary procedure, and, as with any surgery, there are inherent risks such as anesthetic complications, side effects of analgesia (pain medications), hemorrhage, infection and pain. In addition to these risks, serious complications can occur with the declaw procedure, such as vasculitis or thrombosis, which can result in a loss of blood supply to the paw. Long-term complications, which can increase with age, include acute pain, nerve trauma, behavioral problems, arthritis, lameness, and chronic neuropathic pain. Cats that go outdoors should never be declawed.

Alternatives to declawing are many, and most cats can be trained to scratch on appropriate surfaces. Several scratching surfaces of varying materials (carpeting, cardboard, hemp, etc.) should be offered to cats regardless of declawed status. Alternative procedures include

regular trimming of the nails (every 1-2 weeks), application of nail caps (every 4-8 weeks dependent on activity level), using synthetic feline pheromone sprays and dispensers to soothe anxiety or aggression, and providing an ample amount of environmental and social enrichment to your cats. The staff of Ayers Animal Hospital are more than happy to discuss these alternatives with you to avoid the declawing procedure.

I, the undersigned or otherwise responsible party for <animal>, have been fully informed of the risks and repercussions inherent with the declawing procedure itself, as well as long-term side effects and complications which may arise later in life. I understand that regardless of the skill of the practitioner, and despite every effort being made to minimize the side-effects, declawing is an elective surgical amputation that may carry these risks and repercussions for the life of my pet. I have been made aware of the alternatives to declawing and still choose to have the Ayers Animal Hospital team perform this procedure despite the hazards listed above. I release Ayers Animal Hospital from any obligation concerning side-effects from this procedure and understand that all reasonable efforts will be made to minimize these effects at the time of surgery.

**SIGNATURE OF CLIENT OR RESPONSIBLE PARTY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_