

Why blood work is so important...

1. The health and safety of your pet is our primary concern. Because our patients aren't able to tell us what their symptoms are to let us know what could be wrong, blood tests can give us the answers we need, especially before a surgery
2. Blood chemistry tests provide an inside look at your pet's internal organs. By testing blood chemistries, we can determine the status of your pet's major internal organs. The function of the liver and kidneys is one of extreme importance because these organs process and rid the body of medications used during surgery.
3. Hematology tests provide an internal look at the blood cells themselves. Blood is made up of different types of cells. It is very important to know the status of each of these cells prior to surgery. Red Blood Cells (RBC) are responsible for carrying oxygen throughout the body. White Blood Cells (WBC) are the body's primary means of fighting infection. Platelets play an important role in blood clotting and are critical in helping the body to stop bleeding.
4. Results of these tests will determine your pet's readiness for surgery. Depending on the results, we may adjust the dose, types of anesthesia used, or advise delaying the surgery.

5. As with your own regular health check-up's, testing on a regular basis lets us monitor your pet's health over its lifetime and enables us to detect any potential problems early on.

Facts about Blood Testing (These are just some tests we run as part of the chemscreen)

Albumin (ALB)

Produced by the liver, reduced levels of this protein can point to chronic liver or kidney disease, or parasitic infections such as hookworms.

Alanine Aminotransferase (ALT)

An enzyme produced by the liver. Elevated levels can indicate liver disease or Cushing's Syndrome.

Blood Urea Nitrogen (BUN)

Blood Urea Nitrogen is produced by the liver and excreted by the kidneys. Testing for it helps to detect liver and kidney disease.

Calcium (Ca²⁺)

Increase levels of calcium can be an indicator of certain types of tumors, parathyroid or kidney disease.

Cholesterol (CHOL)

Elevated levels of cholesterol are seen in a variety of disorders including hypothyroidism and diseases of the liver and kidney.

Creatinine (CREA)

Creatinine is a by-product of muscle metabolism and is excreted by the kidneys. Elevated levels can indicate kidney disease or urinary obstruction.

Blood Glucose (GLU)

High Levels can help diagnose diabetes and can indicate stress especially in cats. Low levels can indicate liver disease.

Phosphorus (PHOS)

Phosphorus can be an indicator of kidney disease when elevated.

Total Bilirubin (TBIL)

A component of bile and bilirubin is secreted by the liver into the intestinal tract. Blood bilirubin levels are useful in diagnosing liver problems.

Total Protein (TP)

The levels of total protein can suggest a variety of conditions including dehydration and diseases of the liver, kidney, and gastrointestinal tract.

Electrolytes (Sodium, Potassium, Chloride)

The balance of these chemicals is vital to your pet's health. Abnormal levels can be life threatening. Electrolyte tests are important in evaluating vomiting, diarrhea, and cardiac symptoms.



Hematology Tests

(A variety of tests that analyze and measure individual blood cells).

Hematocrit (HCT)

This provides information on the amount of Red Blood Cells (RBC) present in the blood.

This test is used to diagnose anemia.

Complete Blood Count (CBC)

A more complete panel of tests, a CBC provides detailed information on RBC, WBC, and platelets. These tests can indicate the presence of inflammation, stress or an inability to fight infection. Low platelets can indicate a potentially serious problem such as bleeding during or after surgery. We realize that the welfare of your pet is your foremost concern. We have created 3 packages for your pet for before, during, and after surgery. We can recommend which package would be best for your pet's individual needs for each surgery they undergo. If you have any questions regarding any part of your pet's upcoming surgery, please don't hesitate to ask the doctor or the staff.



Surgical Packages

Surgical Package 1

Total protein and Hematocrit. Post operative pain medicine dispensed if warranted.

Cost: \$ _____

Surgical Package 2

CBC and Chemoscreen. A series of 19 biochemical tests to more thoroughly evaluate the status of the major organ systems and overall health of the animal.

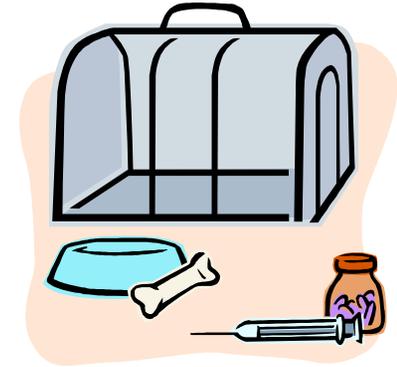
Cost: \$ _____

Surgical Package 3

CBC and Chemoscreen. Pre-operative electrocardiogram. Intravenous fluids during surgical procedure.

Cost: \$ _____

***These tests must be performed at least one day before the scheduled surgery to allow time to obtain the results.**



Clermont Animal Hospital Inc.

Pre-Surgical Information

We at the Clermont Animal Hospital, take pride in our patient care. This includes the types of anesthetic we use for our surgical procedures. They are currently the safest available for use in veterinary surgery. At this hospital, a heart and respiratory monitor is routinely used during surgical procedures. Other sophisticated monitoring equipment is available if necessary. Each patient is treated as an individual and is monitored throughout surgery and the recovery period.

We strongly recommend a complete pre-surgical blood and biochemical screen on any animal over the age of four; however, these tests are also recommended for younger patients as well. These tests are designed to give the clinician extensive information on the health of the animal.

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