



## Options for Surgical Procedures

### Identification

#### Tattoo:

- The tattoo is a series of letters and numbers that allows the animal to be traced back to the clinic. It is a permanent form of identification that traces within Alberta. However, the further away from Alberta the animal is the more difficult it becomes to trace.
- The tattoo needs to be done while the patient is under anesthetic and is placed in the right ear of the spayed or neutered animal.

#### Microchip:

- The microchip contains a number that can be electronically scanned and is placed under the skin. This number traces back to the microchip company. It is a permanent form of identification that can be traced from anywhere in North America. The microchip can be implanted at any time.
  - ◆ Remember to always keep your information (i.e. address and phone number) current if you choose to have your pet tattooed or microchipped.

### Blood work

#### Pre-anesthetic Panel:

- This panel checks basic liver and kidney status to be able to process the drugs that are administered before, during and after surgery.
- This blood work is performed in clinic, typically on the morning of the procedure.

### Intravenous Fluids

#### Catheter for Surgery Including Fluids:

- IV fluids can be administered while the patient is under anesthetic. This helps to keep the patient hydrated, aids in maintaining blood pressure, and helps the kidneys to flush out the drugs given more efficiently.
- We monitor the blood pressure using a special piece of equipment called a Doppler. If the blood pressure drops to a worrisome level we have the ability to take corrective measures immediately because an I.V. line and catheter are in place. Fluid administration is one important part of getting the blood pressure back to a safe level. Adequate blood pressure is necessary to maintain proper blood flow to the brain, kidneys and other vital organs.