



ANESTHESIA

Many pet owners have concerns about placing their close companions under anesthesia. While there is no such thing as 100% safe anesthesia, the great majority of procedures proceed without any complications. Here at Airpark Animal Hospital, we practice the highest standards of anesthetic safety and care set forth by the American Animal Hospital Association. Many pet owners are not aware of what exactly is involved when a pet undergoes anesthesia. These include but are not limited to:

- Administration of pre-medications to help calm pets, reduce the amount of general anesthetic required to induce anesthesia, and reduce pain both during and after surgery.
- Placement of IV catheter to ensure proper access in case of emergency.
- Constant administration of intravenous fluids to ensure hydration, replenish fluid loss, and minimize adverse effects of anesthetic agents.
- Induction with general anesthetic agents.
- Placement of an endotracheal breathing tube.
- Allowing the pet to breathe pure oxygen with isoflurane gas anesthesia.
- Use of heating elements to reduce hypothermia.
- Constant personal observation and care from a veterinary technician with monitoring of:
 - Heart rate
 - Respirations
 - Blood pressure
 - Oxygen saturation of the blood
 - EKG
 - Temperature
- Personal attendance with a veterinary technician during anesthetic recovery.
- Hourly monitoring the remainder of the day.
- For diabetic patients, blood sugar is monitored every 30 minutes to two hours.