

To help ensure safe anesthesia for your pet, we will run a combination of the following tests:



BLOOD CHEMISTRY

Albumin (ALB)

A protein produced by the liver. Reduced levels can point to chronic liver or kidney disease, intestinal disease, or intestinal parasites such as hookworms.

Alanine Aminotransferase (ALT)

An enzyme that becomes elevated with liver disease or injury.

Alkaline Phosphatase (ALP)

An enzyme produced by the cells lining the gall bladder and its associated ducts. Elevated levels can indicate liver disease or Cushing's syndrome.

Amylase (AMY)

An enzyme produced by the pancreas to aid in digestion. Elevated blood levels can indicate pancreatic and/or kidney disease.

Blood Urea Nitrogen (BUN)

BUN is produced by the liver and excreted by the kidneys. Abnormal levels can indicate dehydration and liver or kidney abnormalities.

Calcium (Ca)

Increased levels can be seen with diseases of the parathyroid gland and kidneys, or as an indicator of certain types of tumors.

Creatinine (CRE)

This test measures how effectively your pet's kidneys are filtering. If the kidneys become impaired for any reason, the creatinine level in the blood will rise due to poor functioning of the kidneys.

Blood Glucose (GLU)

High levels can indicate diabetes. In cats, high levels can indicate stress, which can merely be a result of the trip to the veterinary hospital. Low levels indicate liver disease, infection, or certain tumors.

Phosphorus (PHOS)

Elevated levels can be an indicator of kidney disease.

Total Bilirubin (TBIL)

Bilirubin is secreted by the liver into the intestinal tract. Bilirubin levels are useful in diagnosing anemia and problems in the bile ducts.

Total Protein (TP)

The level of TP can indicate a variety of conditions, including dehydration and diseases of the liver, kidney, or gastrointestinal tract.

Serum (T4)

This is a measurement of the level of thyroid hormone circulating in the bloodstream and helps in identifying thyroid disease. Thyroid disease occurs in both dogs and cats, and can have a serious impact on health if left untreated.

Cholesterol (CHOL)

Elevated levels of cholesterol are seen in a variety of disorders including genetic disease, liver and kidney disease, and hypothyroidism.

ELECTROLYTES

Sodium, Potassium, Chloride (Na+, K+, Cl-)

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

HEMATOLOGY

Hematocrit (HCT)

Provides information on the amount of red blood cells (RBCs) present in the blood. A low hematocrit indicates anemia.

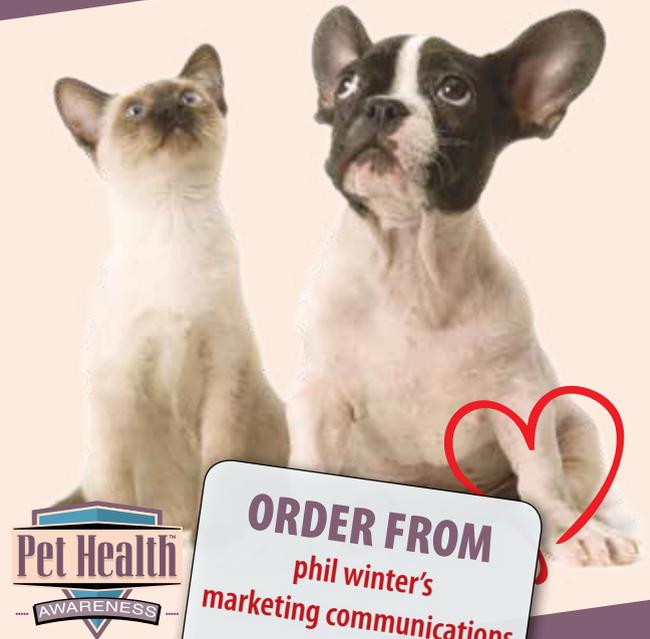
Complete Blood Count (CBC)

A CBC provides detailed information on red blood counts (RBCs), white blood counts (WBCs), and platelets. The total WBC and differential (individual cell counts) can indicate infection, leukemia, stress, inflammation, or an inability to fight infection. Low platelets can indicate a bleeding problem. Surgery can be delayed if anemia, infection, or, especially, a low platelet count is present. These conditions can cause serious surgical complications.

Morphologic Inspection

Looking at the cells through a microscope can provide information on the type of anemia or inflammation present, and on other abnormalities such as leukemia.

What You Should Know Anesthesia and Your Pet



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But having my pet go under anesthesia scares me.

We understand the concerns you have when your pet needs to be anesthetized. Anesthesia can cause anxiety for both you and your pet. Please keep in mind that when one of our veterinarians at **Alamo Animal Hospital** recommends a procedure that requires anesthesia, he or she firmly believes that the health benefits gained far outweigh the risk to your pet.

How to minimize the risks of anesthesia for your pet.

Make sure your veterinarian knows your pet's complete history before the medical procedure. His or her vaccine history, lifestyle, any medications, and recent illness all influence how your pet may respond to anesthesia. Your veterinarian will recommend a presurgical examination and diagnostic tests that help identify any underlying conditions that should be addressed before your pet undergoes anesthesia.

Why test before anesthesia?

- **Peace of mind and reduced medical risk**
Knowing that your pet's kidneys and liver function are within normal limits and can properly handle the anesthesia will help put your mind at ease.
- **Pet's can't tell us they're not healthy**
You can't always tell when your pet is sick. A healthy-looking pet can be hiding symptoms. A pet can easily lose 75 percent of kidney function before showing any signs of illness.
- **Optimized anesthesia protocol**
If your pet's kidneys and liver function are not within normal limits, the anesthetic protocol can be changed to safeguard his or her health and recovery.
- **Baseline record and future health**
Testing gives us a baseline record so we can compare future results with past results.

Your pet's safety is a priority with us.

We recommend all pets have a pre-anesthetic blood panel done prior to anesthesia (this is required for all senior pets). The pre-panel checks the health of the liver and kidneys. Additionally, the panel identifies any pre-existing conditions such as diabetes and anemia. All pets are also carefully examined to ensure no problems exist with their heart, lungs, or other body systems. Based on a thorough physical exam and pre-anesthetic blood work an individual anesthetic is formulated to meet your pet's special needs.

Questions?

Ask us. We understand how much you care.



During a medical procedure, some pets are on IV fluids during anesthesia to ensure their organs are functioning properly and to maintain good blood pressure.

It is true that anesthesia cannot be 100 percent risk free for people or pets, but it is possible to make it a very controlled, very low-risk event. We utilize the best available anesthetic agents and sophisticated monitoring equipment. Our trained and observant staff takes great pride in providing a comprehensive and individualized anesthetic plan that will minimize problems and maximize the health and well-being of your pet.

Did You Know ?

The average person will remember only **TWENTY PERCENT** of what they hear. Every client should go home with a pet health awareness brochure customized with your pet health message.

DESIGN NOTE

You can edit **ANY** elements to meet your unique practice requirements.

Custom design fee - \$169
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