

*Working with Dr. Lara Rasmussen
and Direct Veterinary Surgery, LLC
for your Pet's Surgery*



WHO AM I?

I am Dr. Lara Rasmussen; I have a degree in Veterinary Medicine from the University of California—Davis; an Internship Certificate from South Shore Veterinary Associates in Boston, MA; a Residency Certificate in Veterinary Surgery from the University of Minnesota; a Masters Degree in Surgery, Anesthesia, and Radiology from the University of Minnesota; and Board Certification with the American College of Veterinary Surgeons.

I have been practicing veterinary surgery since 1994 in several locations, the most recent 11 years in the Twin Cities, MN with Veterinary Surgical Specialists and Dr. Steve Levine. In my past, I have served on the faculty at Washington State University College of Veterinary Medicine and Western University of Health Sciences College of Veterinary Medicine. I have provided *pro bono* advanced veterinary surgical care to animals in rescue and shelter settings for 17 years in California and Minnesota.

Outside of veterinary medicine, I have been farming vegetables for eight years, putting up my harvests for 10 years, managing honey bees for 10 years, tackling wacky obstacle courses for two years, and loving on my own dogs and cats for my entire life. They have taught me everything I know about living and loving and sharing this planet.

WHO WILL BE ASSISTING DR. RASMUSSEN WITH SURGERY AND COMMUNICATIONS?

Karley Brace, a certified veterinary technician, graduated from Rochester Community and Technical College with her Associate of Applied Science in Veterinary Technology in 2012. She began her career with a mixed animal practice in Wisconsin; several years later, returning home to southern Minnesota, she continued her work as a small animal veterinary technician, before joining Dr. Lara Rasmussen and Direct Veterinary Surgery as manager and surgical technician. Karley comes with 5+ years of experience in general practice, an interest in anesthesia and surgery, and a passion to help our furry friends.

Karley and her husband Eric have a black Labrador, Zoi, and a cat, Jager. Karley is an avid gardener and puts up a large portion of her harvest for good eats on those cold Minnesota winter nights! She enjoys traveling to northern parts of Minnesota for fishing, hunting, four wheeling and taking in the fresh air!

OUR PROMISE TO YOU

Direct Veterinary Surgery will help you understand your pet's condition, support your primary care veterinarian before and after your pet's surgery, maintain a constructive communication plan through the process, and provide high quality outpatient surgery to your pet.

THE DIRECT VETERINARY SURGERY COMMUNICATION PLAN

- You will have access to the *Direct Veterinary Surgery* website (www.directvetsurg.com) with educational materials.
- Your primary care veterinarian will have access to *Direct Veterinary Surgery* personnel and materials sufficient to assist you in making an informed surgical decision when your pet is diagnosed.
- You will have the option to schedule a preoperative Surgical Consult with Dr. Lara Rasmussen.
- You will receive preoperative written materials describing your pet's diagnosis and surgical options.
- On the day of outpatient surgery, you will be kept up to date on surgery timing by Karley, and you will discuss the postoperative findings and plan with Dr. Lara Rasmussen.
- Your primary care veterinarian will have access to *Direct Veterinary Surgery* personnel and materials to assist in the postoperative management and monitoring of your pet.

OUR ROLE IN YOUR PET'S VETERINARY CARE TEAM

My training and experience as a board certified veterinary surgeon allows me to support your primary care veterinary team with surgical expertise, as they work with you through your pet's illness or injury. The *Direct Veterinary Surgery* Partner Clinics serve your pet's team as well, for those folks unable to utilize their primary care clinic for the outpatient surgical experience. We all bring unique abilities, perspectives, and services.

Utilizing *Direct Veterinary Surgery* for your pet's surgery allows you to manage your pet's care at your own clinic with your own veterinarian and staff. Outpatient surgery in this setting may be more efficient, comfortable and cost-effective for you and your pet.

THE TWIN CITIES IS WELL SERVED BY THE SPECIALTY SURGERY DISCIPLINE.

I know very well how hard it is to navigate the human medical system; our veterinary system is a wee bit easier but still a challenge. You will need to choose a specific surgeon when you have a pet in need of surgical expertise. Do your homework, ask enough questions of sources you trust to make the choice for your pet's surgeon. If you want direct, face to face communications, schedule a surgical exam and consult. Plan enough to make yourself comfortable with your role as your pet's advocate. You are in charge. And we are here to help.