

How-To Guide– Traveling from outstate MN/WI for surgery at DVS-Partner Clinic

(Save/print for easy reference)

Direct Veterinary Surgery has secured operating privileges at two Twin Cities clinics for outpatient surgery—**Lakeland Veterinary Hospital** (eastern Twin Cities) and **Northwest Animal Hospital** (western Twin Cities). We have worked closely with these veterinarians and staff, and are confident in offering this resource to you for your pet's outpatient surgical experience.

- 1) When your pet has a disease/injury/condition that may need surgical treatment, discuss options with your primary care veterinary team.
- 2) If traveling to a DVS-partner clinic for outpatient surgery with *Direct Veterinary Surgery* is an option, and you would like to proceed, advise your primary care veterinary team to begin the DVS contact process. They will discuss medical components of your pet's situation with *Direct Veterinary Surgery* staff, and confirm the proposed plan.
- 3) **You will then assume responsibility for scheduling your pet's care** with *Direct Veterinary Surgery* by contacting us thru email or phone. ****It is extremely helpful to this process if DVS knows about your pet, from your primary care veterinary team, prior to scheduling discussions with you; please confirm this before contacting DVS.****

BEFORE THE VISIT:

- Schedule an Admissions Appointment with DVS. directvetsurg@gmail.com ; 651 829-1111
- From your primary care veterinary team, collect all hardcopy/CD medical records, tests and x-rays to carry with you to the surgery appointment.
- A calendar reminder confirmation will be sent from DVS to you along with educational materials and clinic directions/contact.
- The day before surgery, a phone/email confirmation will be made to you.

DAY OF SURGERY:

- Partner Clinic attending veterinarian and staff will conduct admitting exam with you, and the plan will be confirmed or adjusted.
- The Partner Clinic veterinary staff will manage anesthesia through recovery.
- Dr. Lara Rasmussen will discuss your pet's case with the attending veterinarian on the day of surgery and confirm the surgical plan. Dr. Lara Rasmussen will proceed with the surgical plan, unless changes are recommended. If that is the case, she will contact you for discussions before proceeding. ****Please make yourself available.**
- DVS surgical assistant, Karley Brace, CVT, will assist with patient preparations and alert you by phone when surgery starts and ends.
- Postoperatively, Dr. Lara Rasmussen will discuss your pet's case with you by phone and provide written postoperative instructions.
- The Partner Clinic veterinary staff will conduct a discharge visit with you and your pet.

- A phone and/or email postop summary by Dr. Lara Rasmussen will be sent to your primary care veterinary clinic along with complete medical records and patient x-rays.

AFTER SURGERY:

- Routing questions through your primary care veterinary team is the most useful method of maintaining continuity-of-care and accurate medical records.
- Partner Clinic staff will contact you 1-3 days postop to assist with any immediate questions and reiterate the plan for you to schedule a recheck with your primary care clinic at 2-weeks.
- DVS will contact your primary care veterinary team by email day 15 to assist with any questions after your recheck visit with them.