



## *Surgery at North End Pet Hospital*

At our veterinary practice, we see a wide variety in our surgical case-load on a day-to-day basis, and our doctors find this variety a wonderful source of interest as we care for our patients. While we do see many cases involving standard elective surgeries, such as spays, neuters, dentistry and growth removals, we have recently provided surgical services such as repair of ruptured anterior cruciate ligaments in dogs, removal of a diseased kidney in a cat, removal of bladder stones in both dogs and cats, digestive foreign body removal in a dog, repair of a fractured tibia in a small dog, and on and on. In all of our surgeries, we endeavor to obtain the best possible outcomes for our patients, while keeping them as comfortable as possible while they are in our care. We believe this is what our clients expect when they ask us to provide surgical therapy for their pets.

We are committed to making our surgeries as safe as possible, and take many steps, on each case, to accomplish this. For example, each pet is carefully examined before surgery, in hopes of detecting any abnormalities which could compromise the outcome. We use the safest anesthetic protocols available, which are fine tuned for each case. Our doctors, technicians and assistants are very experienced and highly trained in their respective responsibilities, with frequent opportunities for continuing education to keep skills sharp. And we require pre-surgical blood testing as a safety measure, one of the best ways to check for underlying organ malfunctions which may not be apparent on an exam. All this and more is done in order to reduce the risk of surgery as much as possible.

We are all committed to minimizing pain associated with surgery. We now require that pain management measures which we consider appropriate be taken on every surgical case. The standard we use for our patients is simply this: if I were having this surgery, would I want pain medication myself? If the answer is yes, it is done. Again, we believe this is the level of care our clients expect when they entrust their pets to us. We also believe it is our ethical obligation to relieve pain whenever possible.

At all times, we welcome your questions regarding surgery for your pet at our hospital. And we look forward to seeing you again soon.

**3819 N. 25<sup>th</sup> Street; Tacoma, Washington 98406 Phone 253-752-2265**