



Client Instructions - Standing Surgery

Before surgery:

- If your horse is insured and the surgery is planned, you should inform the insurance company that we intend to perform a surgery and, where appropriate, check that the insurers are prepared to cover the costs of this. This should be done in advance of the surgery date.
- All horses undergoing surgery MUST be up-to-date with their tetanus vaccines. Please check your horse's passport prior to your horse's surgery and let us know if your horse is overdue a tetanus vaccine.
- Shoes can generally be left on in horses undergoing most standing surgeries. If you are uncertain, please ask your vet.
- For some standing surgeries, the horse can eat as normal prior to the operation. However, for some specific surgeries, particularly laparoscopy, a feeding plan will be emailed to you to start 3 days prior to admission to the hospital. Please ask your vet if you are uncertain whether you should withhold food.
- Please bring your horse's passport when they are admitted. Please also bring any rugs you want your horse to wear if your horse stays overnight. Hay and feed are provided but if your horse has specific dietary requirements, please bring these feed types.
- The risks of the specific surgery that your horse is undergoing will be discussed with you prior to the procedure.

Surgical procedure:

- An intravenous catheter will be placed prior to standing surgery in most horses. This generally involves clipping a small area on the neck. Please let us know if you do not consent to clipping the neck.
- Standing surgery also often requires additional nerve blocks so your horse does not feel any pain during the surgical procedure.
- Owners are not allowed to watch the surgical procedure.

After surgery:

- Most horses undergoing standing surgery will be hospitalised at least overnight for monitoring, to ensure that they recover well from the surgery. In the scenario that they are discharged the same day, they can only be transported when fully recovered from the sedatives and food and sometimes water will be withheld until they are fully awake
- Sedative drugs have a tendency to slow bowel movements down, which might increase the risk for colic. Watch your horse carefully for any signs of colic in the first 24 hours following standing surgery and make sure that they are passing manure.

If you have any questions or concerns about your horse, please don't hesitate to contact us at the hospital.

Kind Regards,

The Endell Equine Team

