



About Our Dental Treatment Plan

There may be “routine surgery,” but there is no such thing as “routine anesthesia.” Anesthesia is a very serious procedure, and we take it very seriously.

The estimate you have been provided for your cat’s dental procedure is actually two estimates.

1. The first part is for the initial anesthesia and dental prophylaxis (cleaning). The cost for these items is \$123.60. This is the part that you can compare to “dental” estimates from other hospitals.

However, we go much farther than that. Since general anesthesia is a serious event, we provide extensive safety procedures that are often ignored, such as IV fluids (with an IV fluid warmer), pre-anesthetic blood testing, a heated surgery surface, a thorough oral exam by a highly trained doctor, in-depth patient monitoring, including %O₂, blood pressure, ECG, expired CO₂, temperature and a host of other important values. Perhaps most importantly, we are equipped to do full mouth oral x-rays to avoid guessing about underlying disease and pathology. We also provide a dedicated veterinary assistant for continuous patient monitoring while your cat is anesthetized and during recovery. We do charge for this increased level of care (\$150-166).

Few other veterinary hospitals, except veterinary dental specialists, do all that we do. There really is a difference.

2. The second part of the estimate is the most important and most variable. This involves extractions and any other necessary oral surgery. The price of this part cannot be accurately estimated until after the oral exam and dental x-rays are performed under anesthesia. This amount could be, and often is, \$ 0.00 (zero) if no extractions are needed.

Often in the exam room while your cat is awake, we can say he/she needs a certain number of teeth extracted, but once we anesthetize your cat and complete the comprehensive oral exam and x-rays, we may find more teeth that need attention. This is why there may be a large variance on your estimate; we want you to be prepared for what can occur.

If we do find that additional oral surgery or extractions are necessary (and you can trust that we will not extract any teeth unless absolutely necessary for your cat’s health), we provide all of the safety procedures outlined above. In addition, we provide pain medication, antibiotics as needed and post-surgical X-rays to assure that the job has been done properly.