



We understand that cost is a concern when considering your pet's medical needs. Some clinics may advertise extremely low prices for anesthesia or surgery. This should raise a few red flags—surgery is never cheap. If it is cheap, corners are probably being cut at the expense of your pet's safety.

Here are some questions to ask before consenting to a cheap anesthetic procedure:

**Will my pet have preanesthetic labwork prior to anesthesia?**

- Every pet should have labwork completed prior to anesthesia in order for the doctor to make the best choice of drugs to use. Preanesthetic labwork helps the doctor assess the pet's overall health and anesthetic risk.

**Will my pet have IV fluids during the procedure?**

- Every pet undergoing anesthesia MUST receive IV fluids to keep hydration and blood pressure stable during the procedure. This is not optional.

**Will my pet receive pain medication?**

- Pets perceive pain the same way as humans. Sometimes it is hard to tell when a pet is in pain. All pets undergoing surgical procedures or dental procedures with extractions should receive pain medication during the procedure and should go home with pain medication.

**Will the procedure be done in a sterile surgery room?**

- The most common complication after surgery is infection. Surgical procedures should be performed in a sterile surgery room. The surgeon should be wearing a sterile gown, sterile gloves, a mask, and a cap.

**Will my pet be monitored by dedicated staff during anesthesia?**

- There should always be at least one person (in addition to the surgeon) monitoring your pet under anesthesia. This person should be watching for changes in heart rate, ECG, blood pressure, body temperature, breathing rate, and blood oxygen levels. At FAH we have a doctor, a technician, and an assistant with the patient at all times.

**Will my pet have dental x-rays? (Dental Procedures Only)**

- The only way to find most dental disease is by taking x-rays of the teeth below the gum line. Be sure that your dental x-rays are being taken as part of a thorough dental examination.