



Pre-anesthetic Blood Testing

River City Veterinary Hospital recommends pre-anesthetic blood testing for every patient who is undergoing an anesthetic procedure.

- This testing confirms that the patient's kidneys and liver are functioning properly in order to process the surgical anesthesia.
- It also helps to identify pre-existing conditions that are not evident from the pre-surgical physical examination which may affect the patient's ability to handle the procedure (ex. anemia, dehydration, infection, diabetes, kidney disease, liver disease).
- Finally, this testing provides valuable baseline information for future diagnostic purposes.

National research conducted on pre-anesthetic blood testing suggests that:

- **9%** of all patients display abnormal test values such that the veterinarian changed the anesthetic plan for the surgery for the safety of the patient.
- **3%** of all patients display abnormal test values such that the veterinarian chose to postpone the scheduled anesthetic procedure.

It is also estimated that in senior patients (those over the age of 7 years), **25%** will have an abnormality on their lab work that was asymptomatic.

We would be happy to discuss or answer any questions that you may have concerning this recommended blood work and the value that it brings to your pet's health.