

# Explaining Your Estimate



LITTLE CREEK  
VETERINARY CLINIC

## ESTIMATE OVERVIEW

Your estimate will have a low end and a high end. The reason for the range is twofold. Firstly, it accounts for elements of the procedure that are optional for the owner to decide on (usually prior to the procedure taking place). Secondly it allows the veterinarian to account for a range in both time and difficulty for the procedure that won't be known until that procedure is actually taking place. An example would be accounting for tooth extractions in a dental - there may be more or less extractions needed than was predicted from the oral exam.

## OPTIONAL PROCEDURES

### PRE-ANESTHETIC PANEL

While most young pets have no underlying issues, bloodwork may detect abnormalities that would alter our decision to use certain anesthetic drugs or prescribe certain post-operative pain control medications. For this reason, it is recommended to have bloodwork run prior to surgery.

### DENTAL RADIOGRAPHS/EXTRACT DECIDUOUS TEETH

Your kitten or puppy should have lost all of their deciduous (baby) teeth and be well into adult tooth eruption by the age of 6 months. If there are abnormalities in the mouth at 6 months or later that suggest that they may have dental issues, it is ideal to explore and correct them at the time of spay/neuter while they are already under a general anesthetic. Hopefully this prevents another potential anesthetic and corrective dental procedure in the near future. If there appears to be missing teeth, we can use x-rays to confirm if they are indeed missing or if they are stuck under the gumline, requiring removal.

## MICROCHIPPING

This permanent form of identification is implanted under the skin, between the shoulder blades in the subcutaneous space. It is about the size of a grain of rice. Once implanted, we register the microchip with EIDAP and connect it to your address and phone number. The EIDAP microchips we use are internationally recognized and can be scanned by any universal scanner in the event that your pet becomes lost. Occasionally, these microchips can migrate in the subcutaneous space but even if this does happen, the microchip will still be readable.

## CONE VS. MEDICAL PET SHIRT

Self-inflicted suture complications (i.e. licking, chewing, scratching, rubbing) are one of the most common issues we see in our surgical patients. For that reason we always recommend purchasing either a cone or medical pet shirt to go home with after the surgery. Some animals (and/or owners!!) do not tolerate wearing a cone collar so we do offer the option of a medical pet shirt. Costs will vary depending on the size of your pet. If you would like a more accurate quote, please give us a call.

## ADDITIONAL CHARGES

Any abnormalities that are noted on a physical exam or bloodwork the morning of surgery will be explained to you via telephone. That is why it's very important to provide the best number to contact you and to be available by phone while your pet is in the hospital with us. Any additional charges will be quoted and explained to you over the phone.

