

**Advanced Veterinary Dentistry**  
**www.animaldentistrysolutions.com**  
**Donald H. DeForge, VMD, LLC**  
**Fellow of the Academy of Veterinary Dentistry**  
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Welcome and thank you for choosing Advanced Veterinary Dentistry for comprehensive oral testing and treatment!

This booklet assists you in preparing for admissions, hospital stay, and discharge. We truly hope it, also brings to you a comfort zone of knowledge, and allows you to have a pleasant visit. Please read it carefully. It is essential information; helpful advice; and provide answers to the many questions frequently asked.

Dr. DeForge and his staff are YOUR personal health care providers and caretakers of the Human-Animal Bond. We want to hear about your pet and especially want you to feel free to contact us about queries that you might have. Our team will always offer support and love to your companion and show compassion and concern in all phases of care. The information in this section is a general guide to going into hospital. Details will vary depending on why you are being admitted and which test or treatment you are receiving.

You must E-Mail Dr. DeForge at DoctorDeForge@yahoo.com if you have any questions about this Admissions Booklet.

### **Admission Release and Instructions**

If you are due to go to our hospital for elective care (pre-arranged), you will receive the Admission Release and Instructions beforehand. The Admission Release and Instructions are part of this document. Your Admission Release and Instructions will contain any special instructions you need to follow before your hospital procedure.

**This Admissions Booklet has an essential Adobe Sign-Electronic Signature section. You MUST complete the Adobe Sign-Electronic Signature Section within 24 hours of receiving these Internet Documents-releases.**

**Failure to complete the Electronic Signature Adobe Sign Section [with both your Credit Card Information and Acknowledgement of Informed Consent for Treatment] after reading the entire Admission Booklet [within 24 hours of reception]... will result in removal from Dr. DeForge's schedule!**

**Fill in all designated areas that may require a signature and/or additional information. Once you have completed all areas a black box will appear at the top of the document that states, I agree to the Terms and Use and Consumer Disclosure of this document "Click to Sign". Once "Click to Sign" has been completed the document will automatically be returned to Dr. DeForge**

All parties that are owners of the pet must sign these documents. Only the parties who sign the Admissions Booklet can be spoken to by Dr. DeForge and/or other doctors and

staff at Silver Sands Veterinary and all other consultation sites concerning the pre-care, care, and post-care of the pet mentioned in this Admissions Booklet.

### Consent for Treatment and/or Admission

I, the undersigned owner or authorized agent of the owner seeking veterinary care for the pet identified above, certify that **I am** over **eighteen** years of age, and hereby consent to the examination of this pet by staff veterinarians at this veterinary practice. I also agree that after consultation with me, the hospital's doctors may prescribe medication for, treat, hospitalize, sedate, anesthetize and/or perform surgery on this animal. I understand that some risks always exist with anesthesia and/or surgery and that I am encouraged to discuss any concerns I have about those risks with the attending veterinarian before the procedure is initiated. Should some unexpected life-saving emergency care be required, and the attending veterinarian be unable to reach me, this practice's staff has my permission to provide such treatment and I agree to pay for all related fees.

I understand that an estimate of the costs for veterinary services will be provided to me and that I am encouraged to discuss all fees attendant to such care before services are rendered and during this pet's ongoing medical treatment. I agree to pay a deposit of the estimated fees and assume financial responsibility for the balance of all services rendered upon discharge.

I further agree that either I, or an authorized agent of mine, will pick up our pet and pay for all accrued charges when released from the hospital.

### Consent for Oral Care

I, the undersigned owner, or owner's authorized agent, of the above pet certify that **I am** over **eighteen** years of age. I have been informed that my pet is in need of preventive or therapeutic dental care and hereby consent to the appropriate procedures described to me by staff veterinarians at this facility. These procedures include but are not limited to the following: 1) Dental Prophylaxes (routine teeth cleaning and polishing), 2)

#### HAVE YOU TALKED WITH YOUR DOCTOR ABOUT THE FOLLOWING?

1. The medical and/or surgical treatment alternatives for your pet
2. Sufficient details of the procedures for you to understand what will be performed
3. How fully your pet might respond or recover and how long it could take
4. The most common complications and how serious they might be
5. The length and type of follow-up restraint and care required
6. How much this treatment is expected to cost and how payment will be handled

Extractions, 3) Oral Surgery 4) Root Canal/Crown procedures, 5) Periodontal Care, 6) Restorative Dentistry, 7) Oral Trauma Repair, 8) Oral Oncology, and 9) Antibiotic or Bone implants, 10) Stomatitis Surgery, 11) Pedodontics, 12) and other oral procedures advised by Dr. DeForge

I am aware that dental procedures for animals require the use of anesthesia to: 1) maximize visualization of the gums, teeth, and oral cavity, 2) minimize movement and discomfort, and 3) provide for the safety of the pet, doctors, and hospital staff. I understand that some risks always exist with anesthesia and dental procedures

and that I am encouraged to discuss any concerns I have about those risks with my attending veterinarian before these

procedures are initiated. Should some unexpected life-saving emergency care be

required and the attending veterinarian is unable to reach me, the staff at this practice has my permission to provide such treatment and I agree to pay for such care. I accept that veterinary medicine is an inexact science and that no guarantee of successful treatment has been made.

I have been informed that examinations under anesthesia often reveal abnormally loose teeth that fall out or should be extracted to prevent oral discomfort and ongoing infection of surrounding bone. I also have been informed that the loss or removal of one or more unhealthy canine teeth occasionally allows for an awkward protrusion of the tongue to one side or the other. All questions and concerns I have about the recommended dental procedures have been answered to my satisfaction. Full client education has been provided.

I understand that an estimate of the fees for the above dental care will be provided to me and that I am encouraged to discuss all fees related to such care before services are rendered. I agree to pay a deposit of the estimated fees, assume financial responsibility for the balance of services rendered upon discharge, and agree to provide payment on a credit card or Care Credit, or acceptable payment plan as outlined herein.

The Academy of Veterinary Dentistry is an international organization of veterinarians with a special interest in the dental care of animals. Most of the members are active practitioners, serving the oral health needs of their patients. Some work with exotic animals in the wild and at exhibition parks and zoos. Many others are involved in research, teaching, consulting and medical sales.

A Fellow of the Academy of Veterinary Dentistry is a veterinarian who has had additional training in veterinary dentistry and has passed a credentialing process and examination to achieve Fellow status. **Dr. DeForge is a Fellow of the Academy of Veterinary Dentistry.**

The Academy of Veterinary Dentistry was formed to recognize those individuals who dedicate a significant part of their professional activities to the practice of, instruction of, or research in Veterinary Dentistry. The Academy is dedicated to the continued improvement of practice standards and knowledge in Veterinary Dentistry. We further these goals by encouraging instruction and research at Veterinary Medical Educational Institutions and by sharing our knowledge and experience with practitioners through continuing education programs. Dr. DeForge is a Fellow of the Academy of Veterinary Dentistry.

### **Examination – Consultation – Treatment – Procedure and/or Surgery Release**

It is your responsibility to ask and understand the answers to the below questions before admittal or before leaving if an out- patient exam. If you have questions and the doctor is not at the center at the time of admittal, DO NOT admit until you speak to the doctor.

1. The medical and/or surgical treatment alternatives for your pet?
2. Sufficient details of the procedures for you to understand what will be performed?
3. How fully your pet might respond or recover and how long it could take?
4. The length and type of follow-up restraint and care required?
5. How much this treatment is expected to cost and how payments will be handled?

One of the most common complaints by clients nationally about veterinary hospitals is a lack of knowledge about services performed on the companion[s] they love. There is also dissatisfaction concerning fees for services rendered because of a lack of communication prior to admittal.

Dr. DeForge and the staff of Silver Sands Veterinary Center and all Centers for Oral Care consultation sites and satellites have found the answer with DETAILED and COMPREHENSIVE Admission Packages.

I authorize Dr. DeForge and whomever (s)he may designate an assistant(s), to administer such treatments, anesthesia, sedation, and/or procedure(s) as are necessary!

I consent to the administration/usage of anesthesia and/or sedation in connection with the treatment(s) and/or procedure(s) by the Department of Anesthesia of all Centers for Oral Care consultation sites and satellites. I also consent to the use of local or conscious sedation if used alone or in conjunction with the above anesthesia. The risks and alternatives related to anesthesia have been explained to me by the doctor and/or nurse/technician/anesthetist.

I, also, consent to oral radiology and oral photography if necessitated.

In the case of pulmonary or cardiac arrest, I give the above doctor(s) and staff permission for critical care treatment and resuscitation including all emergency measures needed in treatment of such a crisis.

I, hereby, acknowledge that I have read all pages of the above Authorization for Medical and/or Surgical Treatment(s) with Anesthesia/Sedation and that I am signing it based on my satisfactory understanding of the information and explanation as given to me by Dr. DeForge.

- A. The medical or surgical or oral care reason necessitating the procedure(s).
- B. The description of the treatment(s) and or procedure(s) as explained by the doctor and/or assistant.
- C. The reasonably foreseeable risks and resultant action including potential complications of the procedure(s) and or treatment(s).
- D. The reasonable treatment or care alternatives and their risks, if any, involved in those alternative treatment(s) and or procedure(s).

### **Sedation-Tranquilization-Anesthesia Release**

Dr. DeForge feels it is paramount that no patient be in pain during any procedure, diagnostic test, treatment, or surgical intervention.

By signing below, you give permission for Dr. DeForge to perform sedation-tranquilization-analgesia-and/or anesthesia for the necessary care of your special friend. Also, by signing below, you give permission for this care with the understanding that the reaction to any sedative, tranquilizer, analgesic, and or anesthetic is patient specific. You assume with informed consent responsibility for the injectable drugs and/or gas inhalants below and cannot hold Dr. DeForge and/or the other doctor[s] at Silver Sands Veterinary Center responsible for any adverse reaction if it occurs.

You, also, realize that the patient when discharged may not be one hundred percent awake from the sedation. You must monitor at home to be sure that the patient does not fall or hurt itself on stairs, slippery floors, jumping, or practicing any play pattern or activity that is not recommended, by the doctor, during recovery.

Recovery time cannot be assumed. It is different in each patient. Full reversal is not seen for 24 hours in many patients. Reversal agents are not given unless the doctor feels it is necessary. Some agents do not have reversal agents. In most instances, reversal agents are not recommended because the pain control of the agent used will be modified.

Common sense must prevail: leash walk, no food for six hours after sedation, and no water for two hours after sedation. Do not leave home unattended or allow playing with other pets while reflexes are poor. [up to 24 hours] If you have questions, always feel free to call Dr. DeForge, if not available you will be directed to call an Animal ER nearest your home! Patient comfort, quality of life, and a pain free life are the three most important concerns at Silver Sands Veterinary Center.

Procedure: Comprehensive Oral Health Assessment and Treatment

### **INFORMED CONSENT**

**Centers for Oral Care want you to be fully informed about the diagnosis and treatment of all conditions noted in this case.**

Dr. DeForge performs a detailed intra and extra oral examination and digital oral diagnostics to arrive at a definitive diagnosis. This is all performed under gas inhalant anesthesia with a nurse anesthetist and full monitoring.

Whether the condition to be treated is an oral surgery procedure, a periodontal procedure, an endodontic procedure, an oral trauma procedure, an oral oncology procedure, a prosthodontic procedure, or other, he wants you to be fully informed.

If you have any general questions about the treatment alternatives, feel free to discuss it with Dr. DeForge before diagnostics and treatment are initiated. Some problems cannot be fully defined prior to anesthesia and oral radiographs. Still it is good to write down as many questions as possible so that there can be a lengthy pre-discussion prior to anesthesia. Once the patient is under anesthesia, Dr. DeForge never leaves the patient and will not come into the exam rooms to discuss findings.

**The most important factor is to feel comfortable with your decision.** The purpose of advanced oral care is to restore a pain free quality of life. With your assistance, this will be possible. Medicines, homecare, and follow up examinations are always essential to recovery.

Thank you,

D.H. DeForge, VMD - Fellow of the Academy of Veterinary Dentists  
Advanced Veterinary Dentistry

## **Possible Complications of all Surgeries in General**

### **[May be variable in occurrence]**

- Soreness, swelling bruising and limited mouth opening during healing; sometimes related to swelling and muscle soreness and sometimes related to stress on the jaw joints [ especially when TMJ problems already exist].
- Bleeding, usually controllable, but which may be prolonged and required additional care.
- Drug allergy or side effects.
- Infection-possibly requiring additional care; this can occur even if an antibiotic prescription has been ordered.

### **All Tooth Extractions**

- Discomfort developing a few days after extraction which requires further care; this can occur even if on pain medicine.
- Injury or damage to adjacent teeth, filling, or soft tissue.
- Sharp ridges or bone splinters, which may need to be surgically smoothed in time.
- Portions of tooth remaining. Sometimes fine root tips break off and may be deliberately left in place to avoid damage to nearby vital structures such as nerves, blood vessels, or the sinus.

### **Lower Teeth and Lower Jaw**

- Numbness from nerve injury is difficult to ascertain in the companion but usually is associated with drooping of the facial muscles or abnormal chew behavior. The roots of the lower teeth are often close to the nerve of sensation within the lower jaw in the back of the mouth especially. It is possible to bruise or injure the nerve during surgery on these teeth. To avoid numbness caused by regional nerve blocks, Dr. DeForge uses Periodontal Ligament Blocks.

### **Upper Teeth and Upper Jaws**

Sinus Problems: Roots of upper teeth are usually close to the sinus. It is possible that during a surgery, a root tip or tooth could be dislodged into the sinus; a sinus opening to the mouth or a sinus infection could result; all of which may require medication and/or surgery to correct.

**It is very important to get to know your doctor and/or dentist when you schedule a diagnostic work-up or a specific procedure. Dr. DeForge has put together this personal history so that you will be familiar with his background and passion to help serve all members of the Animal Kingdom.**

Anesthesia Release Status Scale  
**American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) Physical Status Scale**

**Class I**

Minimal Risk  
Normal healthy animal, no underlying disease

**Class II**

Slight risk, minor disease present  
Animal with slight to mild systemic disturbance, animal able to compensate  
Neonate or geriatric animals, obese

**Class III**

Moderate risk, obvious disease present  
Animal with moderate systemic disease or disturbances, mild clinical signs  
Anemia, moderate dehydration, fever, low-grade heart murmur or cardiac disease

**Class IV**

High risk, significantly compromised by disease  
Animals with preexisting systemic disease or disturbances or a severe nature  
Severe dehydration, shock, uremia, or toxemia, high fever, uncompensated heart disease, diabetes, pulmonary disease, emaciation

**Class V**

Extreme risk, moribund  
Surgery often performed in desperation on animal with life threatening systemic disease  
Advance cases of heart, kidney, liver or endocrine disease, profound shock, severe trauma, pulmonary embolus, terminal malignancy

## **Client Rights and Responsibilities**

Be treated with respect, courtesy, and dignity

Receive care in a safe setting, free from abuse or harassment

Be informed about your pet's diagnosis and participate in the plan of care and treatment

Consent to or decline the recommended care/treatment

Read the detailed biographical information about Dr. DeForge concerning his forty years in General Practice and Urgent Care and twenty years as a veterinary dentist

Know the associate veterinarian[s] and staff providing care for your pet

A timely response by hospital staff for care and services

Have pain assessed and a pain management program initiated

Personal privacy-Confidentiality of Medical Records- and Financial Records

A detailed explanation of all charges and payment methods

Have your personal physician[s] informed with all medical information in case of a zoonosis

### **Each Client has the Responsibility to:**

Inform Dr. DeForge and his associate veterinarian[s] concerning any of your pets past health issues; allergies to medicines; sedation or anesthesia reactions; and/or other adverse medicine or injectable reactions.

Advise Staff if Medical Information or instructions are not fully understood

Observe all hospital rules and regulations and have visitors do the same

Be considerate of other patients and hospital staff

**Dr. DeForge follows the ACVA Guidelines for Monitoring anesthetized veterinary patients in all Centers in which he maintains a Veterinary Dental Service**

### **Position Statement**

The ACVA recognizes that it is possible to adequately monitor and manage anesthetized patients without specialized equipment and that some of these modalities may be impractical in certain clinical settings. Furthermore, the ACVA does not suggest that using any or all the modalities will ensure any specific patient outcome, or that failure to use them will result in poor outcome.

However, as the standard of veterinary care advances and client expectations expand, revised guidelines are necessary to reflect the importance of vigilant monitoring. The

goal of the ACVA guidelines is to improve the level of anesthesia care for veterinary patients. Frequent and continuous monitoring and recording of vital signs in the peri-

anesthetic period by trained personnel and the intelligent use of various monitors are requirements for advancing the quality of anesthesia care of veterinary patients.

### **Comments from the Desk of Dr. DeForge**

Whether human or animal, it must be understood that risk is present with all forms of anesthesia. Dr. DeForge only utilizes General Inhalation Anesthesia which is the safest of all anesthesia systems.

## **Digital Oral Radiology**

### **I. Site Specific Oral Radiology –SSOR:**

SSOR is utilized by Dr. DeForge when a patient is referred for a site specific problem. An example is a patient that is referred for root canal therapy or the extraction of one fractured tooth. If you wish full mouth radiology at the time of SSOR you must request this prior to the procedure. There will be an additional fee for full mouth oral radiology.

### **II. Full Mouth Oral Radiology –FMOR:**

FMOR is performed on patients with multiple pathologies or patients with advanced Periodontal Disease. Oral trauma patients; enamel hypoplasia; cats with resorptive lesions-caries; and oral pain patients all have full mouth oral radiology.

### **III. Serial Radiology-SR:**

SR refers to pre-treatment; treatment; and post-treatment x-rays. If Dr. DeForge advises a recheck with a continuation of SR it is imperative to schedule this appointment at the conclusion of your primary care with a Client Service Representative.

If you have any questions about SSOR; FMOR; or SR feel free to talk to Dr. DeForge prior to oral diagnostics and treatment with General Inhalation Anesthesia.

### **FYI- Recovery**

Some patients experience dysphoria (the opposite of euphoria) as a reaction to the sedatives and/or pain medications we administered to Rocket today. Symptoms of dysphoria include whimpering or other vocalizations, panting, pacing or agitation. Humans describe dysphoria as having unsettling and unpleasant thoughts. Unfortunately, many of the signs of dysphoria are similar to symptoms of pain and sometimes it is difficult to distinguish between the two. If Rocket only had a cleaning or other non-painful procedure, you can rest assured that there is no pain. If your pet had surgery and you are concerned about their behavior after the procedure, there are some clues you can use to distinguish pain from dysphoria. Your pet is more likely to be dysphoric if they exhibit these behaviors a few hours after the procedure, but then improves with time. If symptoms worsen with time, then pain is a more likely cause.

Dysphoric patients are more likely to interrupt their behavior if their name is called and then immediately resume, while painful patients are more likely to continue vocalizing even if their name is called. A painful patient will often improve shortly after additional pain medication is given, while a dysphoric patient's behavior may worsen with additional pain medication(s).

If your pet had a surgical procedure, we are very careful to be certain that your pet is adequately medicated for pain before they are discharged, so if they vocalize or seem restless on their way home or shortly after returning home, it is most likely dysphoria. Place them in a quiet, darkened room. You can try to comfort them by sitting with and petting him/her. Sensitivity to pain medication varies widely between patients and it is difficult to predict how your pet will respond to pain medication, but most patients will settle and fall asleep in a few hours. Most pets will be back to normal by the morning after the procedure. Give all pain medication as scheduled, but if the behavior worsens after giving the pain medications, please contact Dr. DeForge. We can be reached by phone, 1-203-877-3221 or by email, [doctordeforge@yahoo.com](mailto:doctordeforge@yahoo.com). Contact your nearest Animal ER if you cannot reach Dr. DeForge

### **Elizabethan Collar-E-Collar- Release**

The Elizabethan Collar is essential to your pet's recovery from oral surgery. It will be difficult for the first few days after the collar is applied. You must realize that the anxiety you are experiencing in watching your pet adjust to its E-Collar is far worse than the discomfort the E-Collar causes the patient.

Many times you have to use a giant breed dog crate and confine your pet until the E-Collar becomes comfortable. Be careful around stairs because of depth perception difficulty when the collar is worn. Carefully carry or help your pet go up and down stairs on a short leash when wearing an E-Collar.

Reward your pet after the pet begins to accept the collar. Talk to your pet and let your pet know that the collar is not a punishment but a system of health care to assure complete and proper healing.

Keep the E-Collar clean and be sure to wash the face after eating. Elevate the food and water bowl about 12 inches from the floor so that your pet can easily maneuver to eat and drink.

Be sure the head collar reaches to at least 2" past the bridge of the nose when the patient is standing. If it resets low on the neck, it will become functionless.

Removing the head collar before instructed to do so will only lead to terrible consequences in healing. There can be delayed healing or complete disruption of the surgery site leading to further surgery. Also, infection can occur at the surgical site; the head; the neck; and the face if the collar is removed and the patient paws at the face. The infection that is caused by the patient many times is very difficult to treat.

If you remove the head collar prior to the time recommended by Dr. DeForge, you will be fully responsible for added care including re-checks, re-exams, additional medicines, injectables, and even further anesthesia and surgery.

By signing this Admissions booklet, I fully understand the purpose of the E-Collar and I also understand that I am fully liable for all complications that can occur by removing it

without Dr. DeForge's consent. If your pet does not adapt to the E-Collar after one week, consult with Dr. DeForge if you wish anti-anxiety medicine. Most patients do not need this medicine but it is an option if needed.

The e-collar is not needed in endodontic procedures.

To understand why veterinarians have been giving the no food, no drink order for so long, it's important to understand what anesthesia is and how it works on the body. Anesthesia is a combination of drugs given to a patient to either numb a particular region of the body (local anesthesia) or render the patient entirely unconscious (general anesthesia) so that a surgical procedure can be completed by an anesthesia technician that make the surgery itself a completely pain-free experience.

When your pet goes in for a surgical procedure requiring general anesthesia, the anesthesia technician will administer a combination of drugs in a quantity that will keep your pet under for the duration of the surgery. The drugs are quite safe and have very few side effects; however, they do tend to interfere with your pet's natural ability to breathe, which is why patients are intubated during a procedure requiring general anesthetic, and this is where the order to fast comes in. There is a general concern that if there are solids or liquids in your stomach at the time of surgery, they could be accidentally inhaled, causing asphyxiation, or the inability to breathe.

NPO After Midnight--The official policy for not eating or drinking after midnight is known as "NPO after midnight" in the medical community and was accepted by the American Society of Anesthesiology up until 1999. NPO stands for nil per os, a Latin phrase meaning "nothing by mouth." The idea is that by fasting at least eight hours prior to going under, your pet's stomach will be mostly empty, making the likelihood that they accidentally breathe in material from their digestive tract that much less. The endotracheal tubes placed in surgical patients today ensure patients can breathe throughout their procedures and are designed to prevent choking in the event that some debris does enter the lungs.

**New data from the American Society of Anesthesiology still recommends no food after midnight but allows small amounts of water up to 3 hours before surgery. The water allows a homeostasis or equilibrium to be maintained before IV fluids are initiated.**

**Fasting instructions to begin the night prior to admittal:**

**No food after midnight**

**No water is to be given 3 hours prior to surgery**

Dr. DeForge will not proceed with General Inhalation Anesthesia without Clearance for Anesthesia with a detailed Physical Examination and Pre-Anesthesia Testing by himself; by the referring veterinarian [i.e. your personal veterinarian]; or by Internal Medicine and Cardiology in patients with advanced cardiopulmonary problems.

You are encouraged to seek the counsel of Internal Medicine and Cardiology in patients with heart murmurs; abnormal Electrocardiograms; abnormal chest X-rays; or those pets exhibiting coughing or exercise intolerance at home.

**By signing this Admissions Booklet, I realize that all exams; and pre-anesthesia diagnostics; and procedures have been performed by either Dr. DeForge; your referring general practice doctor; and/or a veterinary specialist at your request. I**

**have been advised of the natures of these tests and procedures and the potential risks and benefits for the usage of anesthesia.**

**I, also, fully understand that veterinary medicine and dentistry is not an exact science and that no guarantee or warranty has been made regarding the results that may be achieved. All precautions will be taken for a safe anesthesia journey. Dr. DeForge wants you to, completely, understand that anesthesia complications can occur which he may not be able to reverse leading to loss of life.**

Scheduling oral surgery or dental work for your pet can be difficult. Every procedure carries some measure of risk, so it's tough to think about your loved one under anesthesia. But before you become overly concerned, let Dr. DeForge know your thoughts. Don't let internet stories prevent your pet from receiving necessary veterinary oral care. Without this care, a pet can live in pain with a poor quality of life. Complications do occur, but loss of life is rare. Studies suggest that for normal, healthy dogs and cats, the risk of a serious complication is very low. A well-trained veterinary team will take every reasonable precaution — including having a knowledgeable staff, appropriate patient monitoring procedures, and proper patient evaluation and preparation — to minimize these risks.

Before signing this Anesthesia Consent Form, Dr. DeForge wants to make sure that you are fully informed; well educated about anesthesia; and fully knowledgeable about all efforts that he undertakes to have a safe anesthesia journey.

If you are not comfortable, do not proceed. If you understand Dr. DeForge's commitment to safety in anesthesia and the risks involved—please sign below...A Consent for the Usage of General Inhalation Anesthesia in my pet.

**Consent Acknowledgment Statement:**

I, the undersigned, hereby authorize Dr. DeForge, Fellow of the Academy of Veterinary Dentistry to take dental x-rays, clinical exam and/or any other diagnostic aid he deems appropriate to make a thorough diagnosis of my pet's dental needs. I, also, authorize Dr. DeForge to perform any and all forms of treatment, medication and therapy that may be indicated to assist in my pets oral needs. I authorize and consent that the doctor employ and provide such assistance that he deems appropriate. Dr. DeForge has explained to me that the purpose of today's procedure[s] is to remove pain and restore a quality of life through Periodontal Care; Periodontal Surgery; Oral Surgery including Extractions; Root Canal Therapy if applicable; and other intradisciplinary options in oral care that will help restore a pain free quality of life.

Unforeseen conditions may arise that require a procedure that is different than set forth in these initial discussion[s]. I authorize Dr. DeForge to perform such procedure[s] when in his professional judgment the procedures[s] are deemed necessary. I realize that extraction of teeth is an irreversible process, and whether routine or difficult---- extraction is a surgical procedure. As in any surgery, there are some risks which include but are not limited to: swelling or bruising of the surgery site; possible infection requiring additional treatment; bleeding or oozing from a site for several hours; in select cases Dr.DeForge may elect incomplete removal of tooth fragments[to avoid injury to vital structures such as nerves or sinus tissue-sometimes small root tips may be left in place. These patients must have yearly dental x-ray follow-ups]; other conditions include, displacement of the jaw bones due to pre-existing pathological fracture of the bone of the jaw[s]; the need for additional surgery due to lack of compliance with post-surgical home care instructions.

I, further, authorize the release of any information including the diagnosis, radiographs, and records of any treatment[s] or examination[s] rendered--to my insurance company, consulting professionals, or others that may request my records. I understand that I am personally responsible for payment of all fees for dental services provided by Dr. DeForge at any and all veterinary hospitals, clinics, and centers at which he consults.

No guarantees can be made about treatment outcomes; restoration longevity; or prognosis. I understand that any branch of medicine, including dentistry, can involve unanticipated results!

My pet's oral treatment plan may change at any time and I will do my best to approach my pet's dental care with optimism and open communication with Dr. DeForge; his oral care nurse/technicians; and his office staff.

I realize I am welcome to ask questions about any aspect of my pet's dental care and will request information if I am confused or need more information prior to the day of my pet's admission for anticipated diagnostics and procedure[s]. Because pet dentistry relies on x-ray diagnostics while my pet is under anesthesia, it is important to ask Dr. DeForge these questions about alternative care before the day of admission for oral care.

I realize that I am responsible for clarifying any aspects of my pet's anticipated treatment[s] prior to admission and also after completion of care while in post-treatment recovery.

This Consent signed below is a designation for ALLOWANCE of all oral care procedure[s] deemed necessary by Dr. DeForge to bring a pain free quality of life to my pet and companion that I love.

**PLEASE READ if your Pet is Having Anesthesia/Sedation/or Tranquilization TODAY!\***

***Do not leave your pet alone and especially during the summer months AVOID hot rooms without adequate ventilation or air conditioning. In winter month keep the car warm when returning home. Do not allow strong play, jumping on and off of furniture, or running around on slippery floors.***

***\*A copy of these instructions is available upon request.***

### **The Importance of the Pre-Anesthesia Patient Evaluation**

This evaluation is the responsibility of the referring doctors

The Pre-anesthetic Patient Evaluation identifies individual risk factors and underlying physiologic challenges that contribute information for development of the anesthetic plan. Factors to be evaluated include the following:

- Dr. DeForge will review risk factors, including responses to previous anesthetic events, known medical conditions, and previous adverse drug responses. Identify all prescribed and over-the-counter medications (including aspirin) and supplements to avoid adverse drug interactions.
- Physical examination: A thorough physical examination may reveal risk factors, such as heart murmur and/or arrhythmia or abnormal lung sounds.
- Age: Advanced age can increase anesthetic risk because of changes in cardiovascular and respiratory function. Disease processes occur more commonly in aged patients.

Very young patients can be at increased risk from hypoglycemia, hypothermia, and decreased drug metabolism.

- Breed: Few breed-specific anesthesia issues are documented. Brachycephalic dogs and cats are more prone to upper airway obstruction. Greyhounds have longer sleep times after receiving some anesthetics. Some breeds of dogs (e.g., Cavalier King Charles spaniel) and cats (e.g., Maine coon) may be predisposed to cardiac disease as they age. Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy in cats is occult and can only be identified by pre-anesthesia Echocardiogram.
- Temperament: An aggressive or fractious temperament may pose a danger to staff and can limit the pre-anesthetic evaluation or make examination impossible. If your dog has any form of fear aggression, you must purchase a Jafco Restraint Muzzle and have it in place on Admission. Practice wearing it off and on at home to get your dog used to this important safety system. The selection of an alternative pre-anesthetic drug or drug combination may be required for the aggressive or overly fearful animal due to the need for higher-than-usual drug doses. Conversely, a quiet or depressed animal may benefit from lower doses for sedation or anesthesia.
- Type of procedure: Dr. DeForge will evaluate the procedure's level of invasiveness, anticipated pain, risk of hemorrhage, and/or predisposition to hypothermia. Some procedures may limit physical access to the patient for monitoring.
- Dr. DeForge advises against heavy sedation and recommends general anesthesia for procedures greater than 15 minutes. This choice depends on the procedure, patient temperament, and the need for monitoring and support. In general, sedation may be appropriate for shorter (<15 min) and less invasive procedures (e.g., diagnostic procedures, joint injections, suture removal, and wound management). Sedated patients, like those under general anesthesia, require appropriate monitoring and supportive care. They may require airway management and/or O<sub>2</sub> supplementation.
- Dr. DeForge is trained in veterinary anesthesia. Previous training in local and regional anesthesia techniques will facilitate their peri-operative use.
- Risk factors and individual patients' needs provide a framework for developing individualized patient plans and may indicate the need for additional diagnostic testing or stabilization before anesthesia.

Individual practice procedures may include a minimum database of laboratory analysis, electrocardiogram, and diagnostic imaging for different patient groups. There is no evidence to indicate the minimum time frame before anesthesia within which laboratory analysis should be performed. However, the timing should be reasonable to detect changes that impact anesthetic risk. The type and timing of such testing are determined by the referring veterinarian based on the previously mentioned factors, as well as any change in patient status or the presence of concurrent disease.

Categorization of patients using the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) Physical Status Classification System provides a framework for evaluation. Patients with a higher ASA status are at greater risk for anesthetic complications and require additional precautions to better ensure a positive outcome.

Dr. DeForge emphasizes that client communication is important at all times, but especially before anesthetic procedures. If you do not feel you have had all of your questions answered and do not understand the anesthesia/sedation system to be utilized..... **do not proceed!** Schedule an additional consultation with Dr. DeForge

If you sign a Refusal Waiver for Pre-Anesthesia Minimum Testing Evaluation, you realize that you take full responsibility for any adverse reaction that may occur from lack

of knowledge that would have been provided to Dr. DeForge by a minimum data base of lab analysis, electrocardiogram, and diagnostic imaging before administering anesthesia.

**Please be assured that we will do our best at all times to make healing as rapid and trouble-free as possible.**

**A review of POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS (may be variable in occurrence):**

**ALL SURGERIES:**

1. Soreness, pain, swelling, bruising, and restricted mouth opening during healing sometimes related to swelling and muscle soreness and sometimes related to stress on the jaw joints (TMJ), especially when TMJ problems already exists.
2. Bleeding, usually controllable, but may be prolonged and required additional care.
3. Drug reactions or allergies.
4. Infection; possibly requiring additional care, including hospitalization and additional surgery.
5. Stretching or cracking at the corners of the mouth.
6. Dysphoria in recovery from anesthesia

**ALL TOOTH EXTRACTIONS:**

1. Delayed healing causing discomfort a few days after extraction requiring further care.
2. Damage to adjacent teeth or fillings.
3. Sharp ridges or bone splinters; may require additional surgery to smooth area.
4. Portions of tooth remaining - sometimes fine root tips break off and may be deliberately left in place to avoid damage to nearby vital structures such as nerves or the sinus cavity.

**UPPER TEETH:**

1. **SINUS INVOLVEMENT:** Due to closeness of the roots of upper back teeth to the sinus or from a root teeth being displaced into the sinus, a possible sinus infection and/or sinus opening may result, which may require medication and/or later surgery to correct.

**LOWER TEETH:**

2. **NUMBNESS:** Due to proximity of tooth roots and other surgical sites to the nerves, it is possible to lose function of nerves following the removal of the tooth or surgery in the area. To avoid the complications of regional anesthesia local blocks, Dr. DeForge utilizes Periodontal Ligament Blocks.
3. **JAW FRACTURE:** While quite rare, it is possible in difficult or deeply impacted teeth and usually requires additional treatment, including surgery and hospitalization. Some patients present with pathological fractures, already present, from long term oral disease. Other patients exhibit bone loss around the affected abscessed teeth necessitating special oral surgery techniques. Other patients present with ankylosis of tooth roots-[i.e. tooth fused to bony socket]-requiring additional surgical techniques for complete extraction.

**A Review: When having General Inhalation-Analgesia-Anesthesia sedation- I understand that I have: FASTED MY PET FROM ALL FOOD AFTER MIDNIGHT, THE NIGHT BEFORE ANESTHESIA AND DRINK FOR 3 HOURS BEFORE MY PET'S ANESTHESIA APPOINTMENT! TO DO OTHERWISE, MAY PROVE LIFE THREATENING!**

By signing the Signature Page in this Admissions Booklet-Agreement, I hereby authorize Dr. DeForge and staff to perform all procedures necessary to return a pain free quality of life to the pet I love. I realize all treatment decisions on Dr. DeForge's part are based on Comprehensive Oral Radiology Evaluation prior to treatment.[CORE]

I, also, understand that Dr. DeForge may discover other or different conditions that may require additional or different procedures than those planned. I authorize him to perform such other procedures as he deems necessary in his professional judgment in order to complete my surgery. Your discharge Medical Report has valuable information including post-operative instructions. Please read this report carefully.

Your first out-patient Telemedicine re-check is always in 1 month – Call 203-877-3221 for a Telemedicine re-check!

Supportive Oral Assessment [SOA]-Inpatient:

All oral surgery, endodontics, restorative, oral oncology, oral trauma, and periodontal patients should have Supportive Oral Assessment [SOA] with repeat dental x-rays in 12 months.

I understand that individual reactions to treatment cannot be predicted, and that if my pet experiences any unanticipated reactions during or following treatment, I agree to report them to the doctor or his/her designated agent as soon as possible.

I, also, realize that I am fully responsible for any delayed healing or non-healing in my pet from not following Dr. DeForge's post-operative instructions. I further realize I will be responsible for all additional fees to repair the problem[s]!

I have read and have been given the opportunity to discuss the preceding with Dr. DeForge and..... believe I have been given sufficient information to give my consent to any and all planned surgery by Dr. DeForge based on Comprehensive Oral Radiology Evaluation.

No warrantee or guarantee has been made as to the results or cure. I certify that I speak, read, and write English and have read and fully understand this consent form for surgery; or if do not, I have had someone translate so that I can understand the consent form.

Forms of payment accepted by Dr. DeForge:

- All Major Credit/Debit Cards
- CareCredit – you may apply right online at [www.CareCredit.com](http://www.CareCredit.com) for instant approval (we offer 6 months interest free billing through CareCredit).
- Scratchpay – you may apply right online at [www.Scratchpay.com](http://www.Scratchpay.com) for instant approval. Plans do differ based on your credit approval