Colposuspension Surgery Consent Form

Your pet has been diagnosed with urinary incontinence which developed after being spayed. Although most dogs respond to medical treatment with either phenylpropanolamine or estrogens, surgery is oftentimes an effective option. Although not all dogs are completely cured with this surgery, 86% of owners report being pleased with their decision to have the surgery. A recent report found that 56% of the spayed incontinent dogs are completely cured and the degree and frequency of incontinence are significantly reduced in an additional 40%, and 10% are not improved at all. Many of the dogs that were not cured had much better response to medication and many times at a lower dose than before surgery.

Since there is a certain amount of subjective judgment required to place the colposuspension sutures tightly enough to improve continence while not creating dysuria (inability to urinate), some cases may require re-operating the site during the first two weeks to adjust suture tension (at no additional cost).

The undersigned owner or authorized agent of admitted patient _____________________ hereby authorize the admitting veterinarian (and his/her designated associates or assistants) to administer such treatment as is necessary to perform the below-mentioned procedure. The nature of the procedure(s) has been explained to me and no guarantee has been made as to results or cure. I understand that there may be risk involved in these procedures.

I consent to the administration of such anesthetics, epidurals or tranquilizers as are necessary.

Anesthetic Risks: (Although every effort is made to make anesthesia as safe as possible including vital sign monitoring and use of the most up to date anesthetic agents and equipment, I understand that anesthesia carries inherent risks) The incidence of complications from anesthesia are extremely low and we do not anticipate any complications in your pet but on rare occasions the following can occur:

1. Allergic reaction to the anesthetic agents
2. Heart rhythm abnormalities
3. Untoward reactions to the gas including drops in blood pressure or respiratory difficulties
4. Just like in humans, on very rare occasions, general anesthesia can result in death.

We are prepared and will treat any anesthetic reactions if they occur, but general anesthesia is never completely without risk.

Procedure: Colposuspension For Urinary Incontinence, Epidural Pain Injection, IVP

Surgical Risks:

1. Straining to urinate or defecate immediately after surgery
2. Dysuria requiring an indwelling urinary catheter for a few days
3. Over activity immediately after surgery can lead to tearing of the sutures from the vagina
4. “Hymen” formation long term which is extremely rare and required breaking down the hymen
5. Local swelling under the skin near the incision which resolves spontaneously within 5-7 days
6. Failure to improve urinary incontinence in 10% of dogs
7. Some patients will continue to need medication, but usually at a much lower dose with a much better response
8. Some patients will improve initially and then gradually become incontinent over the following two months possibly due to suture stretching, suture tearing, or stretching of the vaginal wall