Anesthesia and Monitoring: Safety from Doorknob to Doorknob

View the 2020 AAHA Anesthesia and Monitoring Guidelines for Dogs and Cats at aaha.org/anesthesia

See page 2 for specific steps in each phase.
Individualize the anesthetic and analgesic plan for the pet's health status, history, signalment, and procedure. Share fasting and medication instructions with caregivers.

Ensure caregivers have followed instructions. Assess and prepare administration, monitoring, and supportive care equipment. Calculate and prepare emergency medications, multimodal analgesics, and local anesthetics. Administer premedications and induction agents.

Provide physiological support throughout the procedure. Monitor and troubleshoot complications during induction, anesthesia, and recovery.

Educate caregivers on the procedure and anesthetic event, post-op medications, and home care instructions.

Support caregivers as they follow home care instructions, monitor for anticipated complications, and coordinate recheck schedules.

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