



## Surgical Release Form for Exploratory Laparotomy

Owner Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Patient Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Referring Hospital: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Veterinarian: \_\_\_\_\_

On the Spot Vet Surgeon: \_\_\_\_\_ Surgery to be Performed: \_\_\_\_\_

Please read the following surgical release form carefully. By signing at the end of this form, you are agreeing that you have read and understand the terms and conditions for your pet to be under the care of On the Spot Vet Surgeons.

**Surgical Plan:** Your pet has been recommended to receive exploratory surgery to identify abnormal contents within the abdomen, most commonly, a foreign body, mass or tumor, abscess, puncture wound, or other foreign material. The goal of exploratory surgery is to identify any abnormal material, areas or sections of organs and remove them. Often times more than one area is affected, however, one specific organ or section of an organ can be affected only. Surgical intervention may require numerous incisions within your pet's abdominal organ systems which may or may not include the gastrointestinal tract, urinary tract, liver, spleen and/or pancreas.

**Surgical Procedure:** Abdominal exploratory laparotomy is performed by opening up the abdomen (belly). The surgeon will use a variety of suture or electro-surgical techniques to remove or debulk abnormal tissue as necessary. Intestinal organ biopsies may be warranted to investigate a more definitive diagnosis. Common surgical interventions during an exploratory laparotomy include intestinal incisions, resection and/or anastomosis of organ tissues, and/or organ removal, lymph nodes, liver lobes, etc. As with any surgery, there are complications that may occur with both anesthesia and the surgical procedure.

**General Anesthetic Risks:** Although every effort is made to ensure anesthesia is as safe as possible, there are inherent anesthetic risks to your pet. The incidence of complications from anesthesia are extremely low and we do not anticipate any in your pet, but, on rare occasions the following may occur:

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

Our highly trained veterinary medical team will take every precaution to take care of your pet while in our care. We will monitor your pet's vital signs diligently and utilize only the most up-to-date anesthetic agents and equipment.

### Surgical Risks:

1. Dehiscence (suture breakdown) of the repair site necessitating additional surgical repair of affected tissues at an additional cost.
2. Hemorrhage from mass removal or debulking of affected tissues.
3. Infection (less than 3%) which may require additional testing and medication at an additional cost.
4. Blood clots that can lodge in major organs causing stroke or rarely death.
5. Bruising and edema postoperatively. Excessive swelling or uncontrolled pain should be brought to the prompt and immediate attention of your veterinarian.
6. Allergic reaction to the suture material utilized in the repair causing a seroma (a small pocket of fluid) to form which usually resolve over time without drainage or revision.

It is critical that your pet should have an e-collar placed postoperatively to avoid issue issues with the surgical incision site. Additionally, strict confined, controlled activity is imperative for several weeks until your pet has healed from surgery. Strict adherence to post-surgical care and the proper medicating of your pet will minimize these potential complications.

**Surgical Consent to Medical Treatment and CPR Directive:** In the unlikely event that your pet will require resuscitative measures, please read the following directive, and choose one of the options for cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

During anesthesia, life threatening complications such as respiratory and/or cardiac arrest may occur, requiring medication treatment and/or CPR. If my pet stops breathing or his/her heart stops beating, I realize even the most successful CPR measures may not restore him/her to good mental and physical health.

- **Level 1:** NO CPR procedures are to be administered. DO NOT PERFORM CPR ON MY PET.
- **Level 2:** Endotracheal tube intubation, positive pressure respiration, administration of emergency drugs, external cardiac massage (chest compressions).

Print or Type your CPR choice here: \_\_\_\_\_

I accept that if the On The Spot Medical Team are unable to reach me within twenty (20) minutes after the initiation of CPR and if after administering reasonable treatment there appears to be virtually no hope for medical success, CPR will be withdrawn.

**I consent to the following surgical procedure(s) for my pet:** exploratory laparotomy.

I have discussed the aforementioned surgery and the importance of pre-surgical blood testing with my primary veterinarian. I understand that there are risks and hazards involved with the recommended surgical procedure, including general anesthetic risk. I agree to follow post-operative instructions and restrict my pet from full activity until approved by Dr. Reynolds or my primary veterinarian. I realize that no guaranty or warranty can ethically or professionally be made regarding the results or cure of my pet.

By signing below, I authorize the surgeons and/or associates of On the Spot Veterinary Surgeons, LLC, to perform surgery on my pet. I am also aware that Dr. Reynolds is not a board certified surgeon and I understand that there are small-animal board-certified surgeons available in the area.

Pet Owner Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Pet Owner Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

*Post-operative go-home instructions will be e-mailed directly to you. Please provide an accurate e-mail address that you can access the day of your pet's surgery.*

**Social Media Release:** On the Spot Veterinary Surgeons LLC occasionally features patients on its Facebook page, YouTube channel, other social media sites, and in publications (print or online). With your permission, we may share your pet's picture, video or story. We may mention your pet by name, but never the owner's name. We would be grateful that you'll be helping other pets by educating pet owners, veterinary technicians and veterinarians.

Please choose one of the following options for social media permissions:

- Yes, On the Spot may mention your pet on social media channels.
- No, please do not share my pet's picture, video or story.

**OTS Medical Team Use only:**

Pet last meal prior to surgery?

Current medications and when last given?



# ON THE SPOT

veterinary surgery

1. Do you have an **e-collar** (cone) or Licksleeve at home for your pet?  
Type of E-collar/Licksleeve:
  
2. **Allergy Medication** (Ex: Apoquel, Cytopoint, Shampoos)
  - a. Is your pet currently taking any medications/shampoos for allergies?
  - b. Name, dosage and how often your pet is receiving this medication and/or bath?
  
3. **Antibiotic** (Ex: Cephalexin, Cefpodoxime, Simplicef)
  - a. Is your pet currently taking an antibiotic medication?
  - b. Name, dosage and how often your pet is receiving this medication?
  
  - c. What date did you start this medication?
  - d. Do you have enough medication to give as directed 2 weeks after surgery?
  
4. **Anti-inflammatory** (Ex: Rimadyl, Carprofen, Vetprofen)
  - a. Is your pet currently taking an anti-inflammatory medication?
  - b. Name, dosage and how often your pet is receiving this medication?
  
  - c. When will the last dose of this medication be given (date and specific time?)
  - d. Do you have enough medication to give as directed 2 weeks after surgery?
  
5. **Pain Management** (Ex: Gabapentin, Tramadol, T-Relief)
  - a. Is your pet currently taking any pain management medications?
  - b. Name, dosage and how often your pet is receiving this medication?
  
  - c. Do you have enough medication to give as directed 2 weeks after surgery?
  
6. **Anti-anxiety/Sedative** (Ex: Trazodone, Acepromazine)
  - a. Is your pet currently taking any anti-anxiety/sedative medications?
  - b. Name, dosage and how often your pet is receiving this medication?
  
  - c. Do you have enough medication to give as directed 2 weeks after surgery?
  
7. **Additional medications and supplements:**