



Mass Removal

1. **Pre-anesthetic bloodwork** (optional) is *always* recommended when undergoing general anesthesia. It is important to understand that *not all pets will appear sick* with some of the early disease processes that can be detected with these tests. Two blood tests are available:
 - The chemistry panel checks your pet's blood glucose, kidney and liver values, electrolytes, and hydration, among other things. This test is helpful in detecting early kidney and liver problems, congenital defects, diabetes, and other things that may increase the risks associated with general anesthesia.
 - The complete blood count (CBC) is a test that counts all of your pet's blood cells, making sure they are appropriately balanced. A few potential health problems that can be detected by performing a CBC included anemia, infection, parasites, and dehydration. The CBC also counts the platelets in the bloodstream. Platelets are highly involved in clotting blood so it's especially important to know that your pet has adequate platelets to help control surgical bleeding.
2. **VetSpon Hemostatic Gelatin** is a sterile piece of foam-like gelatin that can be inserted into the incision. This gelatin helps control bleeding and will be used if necessary.
3. **Histopathology to Marshfield** (optional) is when we submit the mass/sample to Marshfield Laboratories. The on-staff pathologist then examines the tissue sample using various techniques to determine exactly what type of mass was removed. They will also be able to tell if the mass is malignant or benign. All of this information gives us a much better understanding of how to proceed with treatment and what kind of prognosis your pet has.
4. **Elizabethan Collar** (optional) is the lamp-shade-like cone that goes over the head and around the neck to prevent the pet from licking the incision site. It is *imperative* that the pet not lick, scratch, or paw at the incision site. Failure to prevent these acts can cause serious damage to the site.