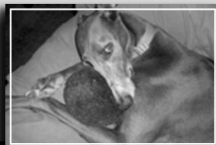




FOREVER HOME GREYHOUND ADOPTIONS



PROUDLY SERVING THE ENTIRE NORTHEAST REGION!

MAKING ANESTHESIA SAFE FOR GREYHOUNDS

Veterinary Information

by Dr. Harry S. Newman, DVM

Do not be afraid or embarrassed to discuss anesthesia protocol for your greyhound with your veterinarian. If he or she has had minimal experience with greyhounds and anesthesia, provide them with a copy of this information. This information may save your greyhound's life.

PRINCIPALS FOR ADMINISTERING ANESTHESIA TO GREYHOUNDS

Never use thiobarbituates including Biotal, Surital, or Pentothal. Acepromazine is a safe and reliable preanesthetic tranquilizer in the greyhound.

Diazepam and Ketamine combination or Telazole are safe IV anesthetic drugs to use for intubation.

Isoflurane is the most common gas anesthetic of choice. It is exceptionally safe and recovery is rapid.

Greyhounds should have IV fluids administered during all major procedures lasting greater than 45 minutes. The rate of infusion is 10 ml/kg/hour.

Greyhounds are prone to hypothermia while under anesthesia and should be kept on a heated water pad or other source of safe heat during surgery.

There is no age limitation for surgically spaying or neutering greyhounds, but proper presurgical workups should be done and all workups should include platelet evaluation. This will further insure the safety of an anesthetic procedure.

PROCEDURE

1. Give a dose of 0.1cc of Acepromazine subcutaneously 30 minutes before administering anesthesia. This will result in a smoother recovery.

2. Give atropine sulfate or preferably glycopyrrolate at the time of surgical induction with the intravenous anesthetic.

3. A reliable IV induction anesthetic combination consists of equal amounts of diazepam and ketamine drawn up in the same syringe. The calculated dose of this combination is approximately 1 cc of the mixture per 20 pounds of body weight. Telazol is a safe drug to use in place of diazepam and ketamine. It is dosed at 1 cc per 100 pounds of body weight. Propofol* is another safe alternative.

4. Isoflurane is then used at about 1.5 - 2 % to maintain anesthesia. Sevoflurane* can also be used.

**This article was updated to include the newer drugs Propofol and Sevoflurane.*