

IV FLUIDS

You may have heard us talking about i.v. fluids or seen it on your pet's surgery's invoice and wondered what it is all about.

Well, i.v. stands for intra-venous and means that the fluids are being administered directly into the blood system through a vein. We use this in sick animals, which get "put on a drip", while staying in our clinic for treatment, and in surgical cases.

If your pet has been off their food and water, has had ongoing diarrhea, vomiting or has another condition causing it to be dehydrated we use i.v. fluids to get their fluid levels back up to normal.

During anaesthesia your pet's blood pressure drops and does not supply the vital organs (i.e. liver, kidney, heart, brain) as well as normal. Depending on how much decrease there is this can cause damage and affect the organ's ability to function properly.

By giving i.v. fluids we are increasing the volume of blood & fluid running through the blood vessels and therefore increasing the blood pressure, keeping it at a level that supports all organs and avoids any potential damage.

In young animals the risks of a decreased blood pressure are less than in elderly animals, however we recommend any pet undergoing surgery to be placed on i.v. fluids as a precaution.



SPECIALS & DEALS this month