

Brachycephalic Consent Form

The purpose of this document is to inform you of the significant risks associated with anesthesia or sedation, and even sometimes hospitalization, which are inherent for brachycephalic (short-nosed) dogs. Not all of these problems may apply to your dog, but these are part of the brachycephalic syndrome. Additional specific concerns pertaining to your pet will be discussed with you.

We consider brachycephalic breeds to be a high-risk population. Brachycephalic breeds are those with a short-nose and skull, including the English bulldog, French bulldog, Boston Terrier, Pug, and Pekingese, among others.

- I grant permission for my pet to undergo general anesthesia/sedation/hospitalization at Cornell University Veterinary Specialists. I am aware that my pet has physical characteristics that make anesthesia and sedation more challenging and carry higher risk than for the average dog with a longer nose.
 - I am aware that brachycephalic breeds have a shortened skull, resulting in a compressed nasal passage and abnormal throat anatomy. The abnormal upper airway anatomy causes increased negative pressure while taking a breath, leading to inflammation, deformation of throat tissues, and obstruction of breathing.
 - I am aware that, if my brachycephalic pet undergoes sedation or general anesthesia, the potential complications include partial or complete airway obstruction during recovery and regurgitation/vomiting, which could lead to aspiration pneumonia and respiratory distress. In some cases, these complications result in death.
 - I am aware that, even if my brachycephalic pet is undergoing anesthesia/sedation for a procedure other than airway surgery, airway surgery may become necessary in order to safely recover my pet from anesthesia/sedation.
 - I am aware that airway surgery may result in post-operative swelling. Post-operative airway swelling is often minor and can be resolved with medical treatment. However, severe airway swelling may necessitate the use of a temporary tracheostomy tube. If my pet is unable to breathe once the temporary tracheostomy tube is removed, I understand that a permanent tracheostomy may be necessary, and that this has significant lifelong implications. If the permanent tracheostomy is not successful, I understand that there are likely no other treatment options available to help my pet breathe.
 - I am aware that the goal of airway surgery is to improve my pet's quality of life by improving his/her breathing. I understand that it is not realistic to expect that my pet's breathing will resemble that of a non-brachycephalic dog. Some clinical signs, such as exercise intolerance and noisy breathing, may persist after surgery. I am also aware that some pets will continue to develop airway abnormalities after a successful initial surgery and that this may require additional surgical procedures.
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AUTHORIZATION FOR SERVICES

My signature below confirms that I am the owner, or agent of the owner, of the pet identified below, that I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD THE ABOVE INFORMATION, AM AWARE OF THE INHERENT RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH THE BREED, AND GRANT MY CONSENT FOR TREATMENT.

Name: EzyVet EzyVet **Pet name:** Test

Date: November 5, 2021

Signature:

