

Why Does My Pet Need Hospitalisation?

Family Matters

One of the hardest moments for any pet guardian is hearing:

"We'd like to keep your pet in hospital."

It's completely understandable to feel anxious.

Will they be frightened?

Will they think I've abandoned them?

Wouldn't they be happier recovering at home?

At Amity, we know how difficult it is to leave your pet with us. We also believe it's important to explain exactly what "hospitalisation" means.

Amity is not a 24-hour veterinary hospital. There are no veterinary staff on site continuously overnight. Instead, if your pet stays with us, they receive **scheduled veterinary and nursing checks throughout the night**. We examine them before we finish for the day (around **6:00 pm**), then return at approximately **9:00 pm, midnight, 6:00 am**, and again when the practice reopens at **8:30 am**. At each visit, we assess their comfort, vital signs, progress and response to treatment, and administer any medication they require.

In reality, **no patient benefits from someone simply sitting beside them while they sleep**. What matters is that they are checked regularly, their treatment continues as planned, and any changes are recognised promptly.

Unless you specifically ask us to contact you overnight, **no news is good news**. If your pet is progressing exactly as expected, we'll let them rest—and you can too. Of course, if we have any concerns or feel the treatment plan needs to change, we will contact you immediately, whatever the time.

Our purpose is to **Empower You Through Education**, helping you understand why hospitalisation is sometimes the kindest and safest option.

Why Can't My Pet Go Home?

Many conditions require more than medication alone.

Some pets need intravenous fluids to treat dehydration.

Others require oxygen, regular pain relief, repeated blood tests, ongoing monitoring or frequent examinations.

These are treatments that simply can't be provided safely at home.

Hospitalisation allows us to assess your pet regularly and respond promptly if their condition changes.

Regular Monitoring Makes a Difference

When your pet stays with us, every assessment helps us answer important questions.

Are they more comfortable?

Are they eating?

Has their temperature improved?

Are they responding to treatment?

We monitor:

- Comfort and pain levels.
- Eating and drinking.
- Temperature.
- Heart and breathing rates.
- Urination and bowel movements.
- Response to treatment.
- Changes in behaviour.

These observations help us decide whether treatment is working or whether the plan needs to change.

Rest Is Part of the Treatment

When pets are unwell, quality sleep and rest are essential for recovery.

Our aim is to provide a quiet, comfortable environment where they can rest between examinations and treatments without unnecessary disturbance.

We Treat Them Like Family

Every patient receives fresh bedding, gentle handling, appropriate pain relief and compassionate care.

We know that every pet staying with us is someone's best friend.

That responsibility is never taken lightly.

Our Goal Is Always to Get Them Home

Hospitalisation is never the goal.

Going home is.

As soon as your pet is well enough to continue recovering safely at home, we'll explain their medications, aftercare, follow-up appointments and everything you need to know to continue their recovery with confidence.

Because hospitals and practices help pets recover.

Home is where they truly belong.

With the people they love most.

Because they're not just your pet.

They're family.

Family Matters.

If you need more information, book an appointment with an Amity vet. We're here to Empower You Through Education and help you become your pet's greatest advocate.