

MINI BLOOD PROFILE (CRITICAL CARE) AND EKG DIALOGUE

What is a Mini blood profile and how does it benefit me and my pet prior to surgery?

- Tests from a single 1.3ml blood draw include:
 - PCV (red blood cell count): rules out anemia and guards against bleeding issues in surgery
 - Total Protein: Elevated levels can indicate dehydration or inflammation. Low levels indicate reduced postoperative healing capacity
 - BUN/CR: Kidney enzymes which, when elevated, can indicate clinical dehydration and/or kidney failure.
 - ALT: Liver enzyme which, when elevated, indicates liver dysfunction.
 - Glucose: (Blood sugar) High levels can indicate stress or diabetes.
 - Electrolytes: Sodium, Potassium and Chloride levels are delicately balanced, and abnormal levels affect both anesthesia and surgery.
 - Blood Gas: (TCO₂) an indicator of the lung's capacity to exchange oxygen and CO₂ , critical for maintaining healthy oxygen levels while under anesthesia.
- Approximately 9% of dogs and cats tested will have an abnormality that alters the anesthetic protocol.
- In most cases, the results are normal. The value in normal results lies not only in peace of mind, but also in establishing a baseline of normal results for your individual pet for comparison with future bloodwork in the case of illness.

What is an EKG and how does it benefit me and my pet prior to surgery?

- An EKG is a printed read out of the heart's electrical activity:



- A quick, painless EKG reading can pick up otherwise undetectable arrhythmias and other heart conditions that could jeopardize your pet's safety under anesthesia.
- A normal EKG reading establishes a baseline that can be quite valuable in comparison to future EKG's should a cardiac issue arise during their lifetime.