

Understanding BOAS Complications

BOAS surgery carries specific risks due to the brachycephalic breeds' unique anatomy. Potential complications include:

- Allergic reactions to anesthesia
- Heart rhythm abnormalities
- Blood pressure fluctuations
- Airway swelling (potentially requiring emergency tracheostomy)
- Increased bleeding risk
- Aspiration pneumonia
- Intrathoracic pressure or fluid buildup
- Blood clots
- In rare cases, death

These issues can arise during or after surgery, during the initial recovery period.

Preparing Your Primary Veterinarian

Here are actions to ensure your primary vet is equipped:

Communication

- **Pre-Surgery Consultation:** Discuss the planned BOAS surgery in detail with your primary vet as well as consultation with TSVS surgeon before the procedure.
- **Post-Surgery Instructions:** Obtain detailed post-operative care instructions from your primary vet.
- **Emergency Protocol:** Ensure your primary vet knows or is comfortable with emergency stabilization procedures or has a facility they can recommend that provides these services.

Equipment and Resources

- **Oxygen Support:** Confirm that your primary vet has oxygen support available in case of respiratory distress (Oxygen cage).
- **Monitoring Equipment:** Check if they have adequate monitoring equipment to track heart rate, blood pressure, and oxygen saturation levels.
- **Emergency Medications:** Ensure they have access to emergency medications like steroids, bronchodilators, and other necessary drugs.



Follow-up Care

- **Post-Operative Checks:** Schedule follow-up appointments with your primary vet for continuous monitoring.
- **Medication Management:** Review all post-operative medications with your primary vet to ensure proper administration and monitoring of potential side effects.

By taking these steps, you can help ensure that your pet receives the best possible care both during and after BOAS surgery.