

CARE OF YOUR PET FOLLOWING SURGERY



Appetite/Feeding

- Anesthesia can greatly affect an animal's appetite and digestive comfort. We recommend limiting water intake for the first hour after getting home and feeding ½ of normal meal this evening. If the food stays down and the animal still appears hungry, you may feed the other ½. If the animal does not show interest in eating or vomits up the ½ meal, it is advisable to just let him/her relax and try again in the morning. If the lack of appetite lasts more than 2 days, please notify us immediately.
- If your pet refuses to drink water for more than one day, vomiting for more than 24 hours, or diarrhea for more than 24 hours without improvement, please let us know ASAP.
- Many patients may not have a bowel movement for 24-36 hours after surgery. This is normal.

Activity

- Your pet should have limited exercise or activity. This includes restricting jumping up on the bed or couch, going up and down stairs, etc. You may allow your pet to return to normal activity levels at 10-14 days.
- We recommend offering your pet a quiet, comfortable place to rest that offers protection from other animals and children. Many pets like to be left alone after surgery. This also encourages rest instead of play. Please remember to check on him/her frequently.

Incision Site / Medications

- It is important to keep your pet from licking or chewing at the incision site. To limit this risk in certain animals, we send home cone collars. These collars should remain on your pet at all times for at least 10 days after surgery. If your female dog or cat starts to lick at the incision area while here, we will place a cone on her as well. If your pet starts licking or chewing at the incision and you did not receive a cone, you may pick one up from us or you can purchase one at PetSmart, WalMart, PetCo, etc.
- Please check the incision daily for swelling, redness, or oozing. If you notice these things symptoms or the suture appear irritated, please

let us know immediately.

- The incision should be kept dry for at least 10 days. Swimming and bathing are not advised. If you feel the need to clean around the incision, you may do so using a warm, wet rag and gently dab around the site.
- Anesthetic drugs are injected into a leg vein directly before surgery. This can result in mild bruising and itching at the injection site. Licking or chewing at this site by your pet should be avoided.
- There are no sutures to be removed. They are buried and should be absorbed by the body. We do put skin glue on the incision to help keep the outer layer of skin closed. This can appear as crusty-like substance on outside of incision and is normal.
- All pets are given an injection of pain medication. For dogs, please administer one dose of oral pain medication starting the morning of the day following surgery. Please read the label carefully for dosing instructions.
- **Do not give human pain medication to your pet! These medications can be deadly to animals!**

Important Note!! As we are not a full service veterinary hospital, you may need to contact your regular full service veterinarian for assistance or one of the 2 emergency clinics at 702-457-8050 or 702-822-1045. This would be necessary for any after hour emergencies.

Signature

Printed Name

Date

**Our phone: 702-384-3333 ex 113 for
PSNC or 120 for Clinic.**