



## POST SURGICAL HOME CARE INSTRUCTIONS

CLINIC NAME

### OTHER INSTRUCTIONS:

Call for topical medication if <animal> licks the sutures excessively.

Many pets will not have bowel movements for 1 - 3 days after surgery. This is normal, provide <animal> is acting normal in all ways. If constipation is suspected, give one teaspoon of cooking oil / 25 pounds once daily.

**Recheck** in \_\_\_\_ Days.

#### **Remove Sutures in 10 days.**

There is no additional charge for this procedure unless sedation is required.

Suture removal not required. Absorbable sutures used. Bone pin removal may be required in 6-10 weeks. There are additional charges for the anesthesia surgery, supplies, and medications required for this procedure. Please call the clinic **ANY** time you have a question or concern. Our major concern is the comfort and healing of your pet. We will do everything possible to insure <animal>'s recovery as quickly as possible--at the least expense to you. Please remember that <animal> does not understand--and may cause self-inflicted damage to itself. We much charge for any and all drugs and medications required insuring your pet's recovery.

**NOTE:** We make every effort to avoid complications, but unexpected problems can always occur. Complications might include infection, wound dehiscence, or chewing out sutures. **THE OWNER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY AND ALL CHARGES RESULTING FROM ANY COMPLICATION OF THE SURGICAL PROCEDURE BEYOND OUR CONTROL.**

### DIET:

- No food until morning after surgery.
- Give only small amounts water at frequent intervals.
- Offer a few laps every 15-30 minutes for the first 6 hours after you take the pet home.
- Regular Diet (the morning after surgery.) There are no special recommendations. No food is recommended until after at least 2 hours after dismissal from the hospital. **Caution:** Do not overfeed.
- Feed only a bland diet of chicken & rice for 3 days.

If vomiting occurs, withhold food and give Pepto Bismol at a dosage of one (1) teaspoon / 20 pounds. Call the hospital if <animal> continues to vomit after two hours. Give nothing else by mouth as long as vomiting continues.

### **ACTIVITY:**

Drowsiness may be noted today and tomorrow.

Medications administered following surgery may cause <animal> to be sleepy. Keep <animal> in a protected environment so that it does not get hurt.

Keep totally confined. **NO EXERCISE** until next recheck visit.

Exercise leg 2 - 3 times daily to prevent stiffness.

Massage leg gently several times daily to improve circulation.

**RESTRICT EXERCISE.** No running, jumping, or climbing stairs for 7 - 10 days. Exercise on a leash only.

Normal Activity within reason.

### **INCISION CARE:**

Watch incision for swelling, redness, or drainage. Apply nothing to the incision without out knowledge. Prevent excessive licking. Do not attempt to clean the incision.

Wash the wound with the prescribed medication once daily to remove scabs.

Apply solution to incision 2 - 3 times daily. Keep the scabs off so the incision will heal from the inside out. Apply ointment to incision 2 - 3 times daily.

### **MEDICATIONS:**

Give pain medication as directed.

Give antibiotics as directed.

Apply topical medication as directed.

Use other medications as directed.

### **BANDAGES / SPLINTS:**

Keep clean and dry. Tape a plastic bag around the bottom of the splint or bandage when <animal> goes outside to keep it clean and dry.

Notify the clinic if you observe any severe swelling, odor, or discharge. Please check the toes and area around the bandage or splint daily.

Keep <animal> confined to prevent damage to the splint.

Discourage Chewing. Call the clinic if this becomes a potential problem.

Keep Restraint Device on <animal> at all times.