



POST-SURGERY HOME CARE INSTRUCTIONS

NOTIFY THE CLINIC IF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING OCCURS:

- Refusal to drink water for more than one day.
- Loss of appetite for more than two days.
- Severe depression or weakness.
- Persistent (over 24 hours) or profuse vomiting
- Diarrhea.
- Severe pain.

DIET:

- No food day of surgery to prevent vomiting.
- Limit water to frequent small amounts for 24 hours. Ice cubes are acceptable.
- Feed regular diet the morning after surgery.
- Clear liquid diet for 24 hours (no milk). Then bland diet for three days. Then regular diet.
- Mix dog food with warm water to form soup.
- Feed prescribed diet only.

ACTIVITY:

- Normal activity.
- Restrict exercise-no running, jumping, or climbing stairs for seven days.
- Exercise leg two to three times daily to prevent stiffness.

INCISION:

- Watch incision for swelling, redness, or drainage.
- Apply nothing to the incision without our knowledge. Prevent excessive licking.

Continued...

- Apply solution to incisions two to three times daily.
- Keep scabs off so incision will heal from the inside out.
- Apply ointment to incision two to three times daily.
- Sutures out in _____ days. Please make an appointment
- Absorbable sutures were used. No removal needed.

BANDAGES/SPLINTS:

- Keep clean and dry.
- Notify clinic if you observe any severe swelling, odor, or discharge.
- Please check toes and area around wrap daily.
- Keep animal confined so splint doesn't get caught or twisted.
- Tape a plastic bag around splint or bandage when animal goes outside.
- Discourage chewing.
- Keep restraint device on pet at all times.

MEDICATIONS:

- Give pain medication as directed.
- Give antibiotics as directed and use entire contents.
- Apply ointment (solution) as directed.
- Give other medication as directed.

ANESTHESIA:

Some pets may still feel the effects of anesthesia. They may appear drowsy and lack luster for 12-24 hours. To be sure your pet is OK, check the gums for "pinkness". Pale or blue gums could indicate a problem. If you are concerned, call our office or the emergency service for advice.

OTHER:

Recheck in _____ days.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: