



POST-SURGICAL HOME INSTRUCTIONS

DIET:

- Give only small amounts water at frequent intervals.
- Offer a few laps every 15-30 minutes for the first 6 hours after you take <animal> home.
- No food until morning after surgery.
- Regular diet morning after surgery.
- Feed only a bland diet of chicken & rice for 3 days.
- If vomiting occurs, give Pepto Bismol at a dosage of 1 teaspoon / 30 pounds every 30 minutes for 6 doses. Call the hospital if <animal> continues to vomit after the 6 doses. Give nothing else by mouth as long as vomiting continues.

ACTIVITY:

- Please restrain <animal> when leaving the clinic by using either a leash or a pet carrier.
- 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.
- **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 our knowledge. Prevent excessive licking. Do not attempt to clean the incision.
- Keep pet in a clean environment.
- Wash the wound with the prescribed medication once daily to remove scabs.

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

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.

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, provided <animal> is acting normal in all ways. If constipation is suspected, give one teaspoon of cooking oil / 25 pounds oncedaily.
- **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
- Use shredded newspaper in the litter box for 3 weeks.
- Our major concern is the comfort and healing of <animal>. Please call the clinic **ANY** time you have a question or concern.
- Notify the clinic if you observe any of the following:

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- Loss of appetite for more than 2 days
- Refusal to drink water for more than 1 day
- Weakness or depression
- Vomiting or diarrhea after 24 hours

NOTE:

We make every effort to avoid complications, but unexpected problems can always occur. Complications might include infection, wound breakdown, or chewing out sutures

THE OWNER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY AND ALL CHARGES RESULTING FROM ANY COMPLICATION OF THE SURGICAL PROCEDURE BEYOND OUR CONTROL.