



Discharge Instructions

The Spay/Neuter Veterinary Clinic of the Sandhills **POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS**

- 🐾 No running, jumping, playing, swimming, or other strenuous activity for 7-10 days. Keep your pet quiet. Pets must be kept indoors where they can stay clean, dry, and warm. No baths during the recovery period. Dogs must be walked on a leash and cats kept indoors. No animals, cats or dogs, should be let outside off leash with an Elizabethan collar on due to risk of strangulation.
- 🐾 Your pet should be kept away from other animals to keep your pet from being too active and to keep the other animal from irritating the incision. If your animal has puppies or kittens they **MUST** be kept away from your pet for 2 weeks, even if already weaned. Puppies and kittens will attempt to nurse even after weaning and will often chew at the incision site.
- 🐾 Check the incision site twice daily. There should be no drainage. Redness and swelling should be minimal. Do not allow your pet to lick or chew at the incision. If this occurs, the Elizabethan collar **MUST** be applied and should be left on 24/7.
- 🐾 Appetite should return gradually within 24 hours of surgery. Lethargy lasting for more than 24 hours post-op, diarrhea, or vomiting are not normal and you can give us a call or an appointment should be made with your regular veterinarian if these symptoms occur. Dogs may have a slight cough for several days after surgery, however if this continues for more than 3 days or is severe an appointment should be scheduled with your regular veterinarian.
- 🐾 Do not change your pet's diet during their 7-10 day recovery period and do not give your pet human food such as desserts, milk, or table scraps. These foods can cause vomiting and diarrhea, and may mask post-surgical complications.
- 🐾 If there are any questions or concerns directly related to the surgery, please call this office at (910)692-3499. If there is an emergency after hours, contact your regular emergency veterinarian or email us at info@spayurpet.org.
- 🐾 **DO NOT GIVE ANY OVER THE COUNTER MEDICATIONS TO YOUR ANIMAL! TYLENOL, IBUPROFEN, ETC. AND DO NOT COVER INCISION WITH ANY BANDAGES OR TAPE.**

If ALL Post-Op instructions are followed in FULL, SNVC will treat at our clinic, at minimal cost, post-op complications resulting directly from the surgery. Your regular veterinarian must address illnesses or injuries that are not a direct result of surgery. Please call for an appointment as soon as you see cause for concern. Complications can worsen quickly if they are not addressed immediately. We cannot be held responsible for complications resulting from failure to follow post-op instructions, or for contagious diseases for which the animal was not previously properly vaccinated. We do not cover cost of care if your pet is taken to another clinic for follow up. Please establish a wellness program for your pet with your regular veterinarian or with one of the many local full-service veterinarians posted on our information board.

Spay Neuter Veterinary Clinic of the Sandhills  910-692-3499 (FIXX) 

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