



Post-Operative Instructions

ACTIVITY AND FEEDING POST OP:

- ❃ No running, jumping, playing, swimming, or other strenuous activity for 7-10 days. Keep your pet quiet. Pets must be kept indoors. 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.
- ❃ Your Pet will be groggy this evening. They may not have a full appetite. Offer your Pet a small amount of food and water upon arriving home after surgery. 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.

INCISION CARE:

- ❃ 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 or tattoo site. If this occurs, the Elizabethan collar **MUST** be applied and should be left on 24/7.
- ❃ **No bathing for 7-10 days after surgery. Keep the incision site dry.**
- ❃ **Do not cover your Pets incision with any bandages, band-aids, or wraps.**
- ❃ In addition to subcutaneous sutures, we also use a skin adhesive to keep the incision closed. It can be blue or green in color. **DO NOT TRY TO CLEAN THIS OFF!**

MEDICATIONS:

- ❃ **DO NOT GIVE ANY OVER THE COUNTER MEDICATIONS TO YOUR ANIMAL! TYLENOL, IBUPROFEN, ETC. AND DO NOT COVER INCISION WITH ANY BANDAGES OR TAPE.**
- ❃ Your Pet has received post-operative medications for pain and swelling. Please complete this medication according to the instructions on the medication.

If you have after surgery concerns, during normal business hours (Monday-Thursday, 7am to 5pm) call (910) 725-8188. If you have concerns after hours, please call our afterhours line at (910) 691-3411, contact your regular emergency veterinarian, or email us at info@spayurpet.org.

If ALL Post-Op instructions are followed in FULL, Sandhills 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.

