



GAILOR ANIMAL HOSPITAL POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

NORMAL OCCURRENCES AFTER ANESTHESIA AND SURGERY:

Your pet may be listless for a few days.

Nausea may be present, especially if overfed before surgery.

Your animal may be temporarily uncoordinated or weak, especially during the first 24 hours.

If there was an incision made, it may swell mildly and be warm to the touch. This swelling will go down shortly after the sutures are removed. Any discharge or opening at incision is not normal. Please call our office of any signs of this at 367.6400.

DIET/MEDICATIONS/SPECIAL CARE:

- The evening of the surgery your pet is to receive small amounts of water and food.
- Feed the Prescription Diet, starting tomorrow. Feed small portions initially to allow your pet to adjust to the new food.
- Mix pet food with warm water to moisten.
- Go-home meds (see instructions).
- For cat declaws, cats should use Yesterday's News litter (supplied at discharge) in place of litter in their litter boxes for 10 days. This is to keep the incision free from gravel and litter dust.
- Other _____

ACTIVITY:

- Your pet can resume normal activity.
- Your pet should be kept quiet for 10 days after surgery. This includes no jumping on and off the furniture and running up or down the steps. (In the case of outside animals, they should be given adequate shelter and not allowed to run for the next 2 days.
- Gently exercise let two or three times daily to prevent stiffness.
- Do not remove Elizabethan Collar for 7 days.
- Strict confinement to cage/carrier or other small area.

INCISION:

- Watch incision for swelling, redness or drainage. Please do not apply anything to the incision without consulting with us first.
- Apply solution to incision two to three times daily. Gently cleanse away any scaliness so the incision will heal from the outside out.
- Apply ointment to the incision two to three times daily. Gently wipe off any excess.
- Keep incision clean and dry (no baths or exposure to inclement weather for 7 days).
- Discourage chewing and licking.

BANDAGES/SPLINTS:

- Keep clean and dry.
- Notify clinic if any severe swelling, odor or discharge occurs.
- Keep animal confined to keep splint from becoming loose.
- Tape a plastic bag around the splint or bandage temporarily to keep the leg dry when the animal goes outside. **Immediately remove the plastic when the animal returns indoors.**
- Discourage chewing.

NOTIFY THE PRACTICE OF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

Loss of appetite for more than 2 days.
Refusal to drink water for more than 1 day.
Severe depression or weakness.
Vomiting after the first 24 hours.
Diarrhea.
Severe Pain.
Incision drainage, swelling, or redness.

RECHECK INSTRUCTIONS:

- No skin sutures present.
- No recheck needed
- Return in 10 days for suture removal.
- Recheck needed in __ days.