

CARE FOR YOUR PET FOLLOWING SPAY OR NEUTER

Your pet has undergone surgery and will experience some degree of trauma. The following will help answer the most common questions that arise after these operations.

DO NOT ALLOW EXCESSIVE PLAYING, JUMPING OR RUNNING. THIS MAY DELAY THE NORMAL HEALING PROCESS.

PETS SHOULD BE CONFINED AND KEPT QUIET FOR THE FIRST COUPLE DAYS AFTER SURGERY. Each animal recovers from anesthesia at a different rate. Some animals are back to normal within 24 hours, while others may take as long as two to three days to recuperate. Pets are not discharged from the hospital if they are unable to walk; however some animals may still stagger slightly upon release. Pets usually recover from surgery faster if the convalescent time is spent at home.

DO NOT FEED YOUR PET FOR AT LEAST THREE HOURS AFTER RETURNING HOME, AND LIMIT WATER TO THREE TO FOUR TABLESPOONS EVERY 20 MINUTES DURING THIS TIME.

IF your pet was released on the same day the surgery was performed, do not offer food or water for 12 hours after returning home unless otherwise instructed.

CHECK THE INCISION DAILY.

*The incision may be a little pink or swollen but there should be no redness or discharge.

* Animals will often lick at the site of the incision. This can be a result of itching from being closely shaven or irritation from the suture material. A belly band can be applied over the incision of females. A restraint collar can also be used if needed.

* A small amount of hemorrhage, or swelling, will occasionally occur at the incision site. This occurs when blood pools under the skin. When the animal moves, a drop or two may discharge through the sutures. If bleeding is excessive or continuous, please notify us.

* Occasionally a hard lump will appear at the site of the incision. This is often a reaction to the suture material or can be a result of blood pooling under the skin. If it gets noticeably larger, please call us.

SUTURES:

Do not allow sutures to get wet. No swimming or baths until sutures are removed in 7-10 days. All spays should be brought back in one week for suture removal and recheck. Neuter procedures are done with absorbable sutures so removal is not necessary.

If you have questions or concerns, call the clinic immediately. Telephone (409) 389-2200
Emergency Clinics (409) 842-3239 or (713) 941-8460