

Pet Cat and Dog Post-Operative Care



Thank you for bringing in your cat(s) and/or dog(s) today for sterilization, you are helping end the pet overpopulation problem and we thank you. Since our clinic is not staffed 24 hours a day we ask that you the owner and caretaker monitor your pet to provide the best possible care for your furry family member.

- **NO RUNNING, JUMPING, PLAYING, SWIMMING, OR OTHER STRENUOUS ACTIVITY FOR 7 TO 10 DAYS AFTER SURGERY.** 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.
- **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, an Elizabethan collar **MUST** be applied to prevent your pet from irritating or opening the incision site.
- **PAIN MEDICATION** - If you chose to purchase post-operative pain medication; you may start the first dose after 6pm the evening you pick up your pet from the clinic.
- **APPETITE** should return gradually within 24 hours after surgery. Lethargy lasting for more than 24 hours post-op, diarrhea, or vomiting are not normal and your pet should be taken to your regular veterinarian. Dogs may have a slight cough for a few days after surgery.
- Do not change your pet's diet at this time and do not give you pet any junk food, table scraps, milk or any other people food during the recovery period. This could mask post-surgical complications.
- We recommend your pet receive a **POST-OPERATIVE EXAMINATION** with your local veterinarian 7 to 10 days after surgery. If you have any concerns please contact your regular veterinarian with any questions that you may have. If there are any questions or concerns directly related to the surgery during the recovery period, please call our office at 904-425-0005. **IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN AFTER HOURS, CALL 904-735-2770**, or take your pet to the nearest animal emergency clinic. FCNMHP is **NOT** responsible for the cost of care at another veterinary facility.
- **YOUR PET RECEIVED A GREEN TATTOO** next to their incision. This tattoo is a scoring process in the skin; **IT IS NOT AN EXTRA INCISION.**

FCNMHP will treat at our clinic, at minimal cost, any post-op complications resulting directly from surgery, if the above post-op instructions are followed in full. 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. 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.

Vaccines are due in 3-4 weeks if initial injection was administered today.
These must be completed to ensure effective protection!

AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY CONTACT - 904-735-2770

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