

Post-Op Care: What You Need to Know

Post-Op Check List: It's very important to follow instructions for speedy healing and recovery of your pet.

Exercise Restrictions: Leash walk, no running, jumping, or climbing for 10 days. In some cases we advise strict cage rest.

E-collar (cone): Recommended until recheck - this will keep your pet from messing up with the incision site.

Feeding: Feed about 1/3 of the normal diet the night after surgery. Giving full meals or eating quickly may cause vomiting.

Medicines: Your pet may be coming home with some medicines - pain and/or antibiotics. Follow instructions.

Incision Care: It is advised to keep this area clean and dry. Don't apply any medications to the surgery site unless directed to do so.

Recheck: Your pet will be returning for a surgery recheck and/or suture removal in 7-10 days.

Got Questions?

What do should I expect tonight? Your pet will be groggy and will have a good night's sleep. Typically he/she will be back to normal within 24 hours; rarely does it takes up to 48 hours to resume normal activities.

Is some coughing normal after surgery? Yes. Your pet may cough slightly because of irritation in the trachea as we used an endotracheal tube during the anesthetic procedure. This cough should resolve in a day or so.

When should I bathe my pet after surgery? Your pet will be returning for a surgery recheck 10 days after the procedure. If healing is complete at that point you will be allowed to bathe your pet. Meanwhile, you can use wipes to wipe off soil, dust, and the smell off of your pet.

What if antibiotics upset my pet's stomach? Antibiotics, in some pets may cause digestive signs (diarrhea, and/or vomiting). Give the antibiotics with food. If symptoms persist, stop antibiotics and call us immediately.

How much activity will my pet have after surgery? Pets are excited by being to be home and may want to celebrate with extra activity, but it's important to keep them quiet. Encourage your pet to rest when inside, and restrict their outside activity with a leash. No running up and down stairs up or jumping during the recovery period.

What should I to do if my pet licks on the incision site? It's common for a pet to lick the surgical site once in a while, but excess licking can lead to infection or premature removal of the sutures. We strongly recommend using a special collar (cone or E-collar) to protect the incision. Be sure to check the incision site twice a day, and make sure the area is clean and dry. If you notice any redness, swelling, discharge, or signs of pain, contact us right away.

How much do I feed my pet tonight? Pets are excited being home and tend to eat/ or drink too much or too fast, which can cause vomiting. They may also be slightly nauseous from any anesthetics used. Let your pet lick on ice cubes first before offering a limited quantity of water. Feed your pet small quantities (1/3) of its regular diet tonight and slowly increase to the normal amount within next 24 hours.

Still Got Questions?

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to call our office immediately. We are here to help.