



Post-Operative Care following Surgery

Your pet has received an anaesthetic today. Your pet may be initially sleepy, especially in the first 24 hours after anaesthesia. This should gradually wear off, however if your pet becomes progressively sleepier or more lethargic please contact the hospital for advice.

When you arrive home please provide a quiet, warm sheltered place for your pet to recover. Please keep your pet confined until fully recovered.

Water and a small meal may be offered, but often animals are slightly groggy after anaesthesia and may not feel like eating. Do not allow your pet to over eat or drink too much for the first 24 hours.

You will notice a small patch of hair has been clipped from your pet's foreleg where the anaesthetic had been injected. If you requested a blood test a small patch may have been clipped from the neck also.

Instructions

- As part of the surgery sutures are placed in the skin. These need to be kept clean and dry so he/she won't be able to be bathed or go swimming until they are removed. There are also some internal sutures underneath the skin that are not removed but dissolve after 30-50 days depending on the material selected by the surgeon.
- Inspect the surgical site daily looking for any changes. Please contact the hospital if you notice any redness, excessive swelling or discharge from the wound.
- The patient should be prevented from licking, biting or scratching at the surgical stitches or interfering with the dressing. All surgical patients are provided with an Elizabethan collar to go home with. This must be worn for the full 12-14 days until all the sutures are removed by our hospital nursing staff.

Exercise Requirements

- Strict rest and confinement. Leash walking ONLY for toileting purposes for the next 12-14 days. This will allow the wound to heal as quickly as possible.

Medication

- Medications are to be administered each day STRICTLY as per label prescription instructions. If you are unsure about any medication please contact the hospital for advice.

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