

Post-Surgery Home Care Instructions

Northview Animal Hospital 7601 Anaheim NE Albuquerque, NM 87122 (505)828-1136

YOUR PET HAS BEEN SEEN TODAY FOR _____ AND NEEDS SPECIFIC CARE TO PREVENT COMPLICATIONS. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT THESE DIRECTIONS ARE FOLLOWED.

INCISIONS

1. Keep your pet quiet for the next 10 days. Although they may act normally, it takes time for the incision to heal. Keep them inside and away from other animals. ABSOLUTELY no running, jumping, climbing, or swimming.
2. Keep the incision clean and dry. NO bathing for 14 days. Check the incision twice daily and call us if any swelling, redness, or oozing occurs. A small amount of swelling around the incision is normal.
3. DO NOT allow your pet to lick or chew the incision. If your pet is licking/chewing, please purchase an Elizabethan collar to prevent your pet from harming the incision.
4. The sutures are **absorbable** ____/**non-absorbable** ____ and **will** ____/**will not** ____ need to be taken out.

MEDICATIONS

Your pet is being sent home with:

1. _____ BEGIN THIS MEDICATION _____
2. _____ BEGIN THIS MEDICATION _____
3. _____ BEGIN THIS MEDICATION _____

Please follow label instructions on any additional medications we send home. Continue any pain medication as instructed on the label, even if you feel that she is not in pain. (Many animals hide their discomfort). If your pet still acts painful, please contact us.

FEEDING

When you get your pet home tonight wait until 7:00pm and give a small amount of water. If that is kept down you can give a small amount of food (up to ½ of the normal amount). Some pets are nauseated after anesthesia, so if your pet vomits, do not feed again until the morning. If not interested in food by tomorrow, please call and speak with the doctor. Your pet can have a normal amount of food starting tomorrow.

POST-ANESTHESIA

Many animals will whine and seem restless the first night after undergoing anesthesia, in most cases this is a normal side effect. Anesthesia can also make some pets confused, disoriented and slightly unsteady for a few hours. A slight, dry cough for a day or two is expected because of irritation from the endotracheal tube. If the cough is wet or productive, please let us know. It is not unusual for defecation to be delayed for 24-36 hours due to the effects of anesthetics. A slight increase in urination for the first day is common because of fluids that were administered.

RECHECK

Your pet will need a recheck appointment in _____ days with Dr. _____.

EMERGENCY CARE

Please contact us regarding any questions or concerns. If you are unable to reach us please call Animal Emergency Center (884-3433) at any time.

The symptoms we consider an emergency are:

- *Uncontrolled bleeding from surgical site
- *White gums
- *Temperature over 104
- *Depression or unresponsive behavior

*****Please remove the bandage on your pet's _____ front arm in 20-30 minutes. This is where the intravenous catheter was placed and leaving the bandage on for any longer may cause complications*****

Do not hesitate to call with any questions or concerns. Thank you for entrusting us with the care of your pet.