

Post-Operative Instructions

- Anesthesia interferes with an animal's ability to regulate body temperature. Tonight, keep your pet confined to a small area (for example, the bathroom with the toilet lid DOWN) where it is warm and quiet. Do not put your pet on a bed or other high place. Tonight, separate your pet from other pets and young children. It is important to know that all pets respond uniquely to anesthesia and surgery and heal at different rates. **If you have any questions or concerns at any point in the recovery and healing process, please do not hesitate to call the office at 240-912-6144.**
- On the first night after surgery, offer your pet a small meal – about 1/3 or what you would normally feed. If your pet eats this small amount do not offer any more food – we want to avoid vomiting that can occur with some animals when they eat or drink too much after anesthesia. Do not be concerned if your pet does not want to eat for the first 12 to 24 hours following surgery. If there is any vomiting, do not offer food for 8 hours. If vomiting continues please call us immediately.
- Anesthesia may wear off slowly so your pet may appear groggy this evening, but should become progressively more active and alert over time. Dogs may sleep and wake up several times this evening and are often clumsy – keep them quiet and confined. Cats may hallucinate as anesthesia wear off; sounds light, and touching may frighten them. They may growl or claw at invisible objects for up to 24 hours. Some cats do best in quiet, dark places.
- RESTRICT YOUR PET'S ACTIVITY FOR 7 TO 14 DAYS AFTER SURGERY. Do not allow running, jumping, or wrestling with other pets or children. Keep your pet in a clean, dry place until the incision is completely healed. Keep the E-collar on at ALL TIMES until suture removal. If absorbable sutures were used keep the E-collar on for a MINIMUM of 7 days.
- Monitor the surgery site closely for any sign of swelling, discharge, or redness. Please call us immediately if you notice any of these signs. Do not put anything on the incision unless you were directed to do so by the veterinarian or technicians. Do not bathe your pet until after suture removal.
- If your pet had a dental done, you may notice that his/her gums are sensitive. Feed soft food for 2 to 4 days.
- Please schedule a recheck appointment in _____ days.

Medications to go home:

_____ Start: _____

_____ Start: _____

_____ Start: _____