



Post operative information

Recovery

Your pet may be sleepy due to the effect of the anaesthetic/sedation and painkillers following the procedure and may be unsteady, this will gradually wear off after 12-24hrs.

Please keep your pet warm and quiet at home to allow recovery.

Hair may have been clipped from the forelegs, where anaesthetic has been injected, also under the neck area where blood samples may have been taken.

A tube is placed in the airway during anaesthesia, this can sometimes cause a little irritation - you may notice a slight cough in the first 24hrs.

Food

Please feed easily digestible food, little and often this evening, such as scrambled eggs, white fish or chicken with rice.

Tinned food which is easily digestible can be purchased from the surgery.

Exercise

Dogs should be restricted (no walks/jumping/climbing stairs) for the first: 7 days, your dog can then have short lead walks following this restriction, until sutures are removed/dissolved, usually 10-12days. Depending on the type of surgery your dog has undergone will determine the duration and the nurse who discharges your pet will advise you specifically for your pet.

Bitch spays should not be allowed to free run off lead for the first 21 days, following surgery, as the muscle layer under the skin takes longer to heal. If your dog is allowed to exercise this can put strain on the suture area and cause complications

Cats should be kept indoors for the first 24hrs, although if they have sutures they should be kept indoors for 10-12days until sutures are removed/dissolved.

Wound Care

Inspect the surgical wound at regular intervals and contact the surgery if there is any bleeding, discharge, smells, oozing or opening or you are worried.

Your pet should be prevented from scratching, licking the surgical site or dressing as this can open the wound and also cause infection.

A protective collar or Medical Pet Shirt can be obtained from the surgery.

Dressings must be kept dry, a protective bag can be provided. Protective boots can be used. If the dressing gets wet or comes off, please contact the surgery.

Dentals

Soft food is recommended as there may be some sensitivity to the teeth. The nurse who discharges your pet will advise how long your pet will need soft food for.

A small amount of blood in saliva may be seen following dental extractions.

Your pet may have soluble sutures in the gums. If your pet stops eating, has excess saliva, foul smell from the mouth or seems in pain please contact the surgery

Exotics (Rabbits/Guineapigs/Small Pets)

Please keep warm and quiet for several days.

Ensure your pet is eating, drinking, urinating and defecating especially within the first 12-24hrs - if not please contact the surgery for an appointment

Pureed apple, soft fruit/veg or liquid recovery food (available from the surgery) can be used to encourage eating.

Post Operative Check Up

Some pets will need to be seen again following their procedure. A nurse will discharge your pet and go through post operative instructions specific to your pet. You will be advised when we need to see your pet again.

If you have any concerns or queries, please contact the surgery.

If we are closed the phones go through to the Out of Hours service or you can call

A&E Vets direct on 0161 486 2355