

AFTER CARE INSTRUCTIONS

Following Surgery

- ☑ **Food** Limit food to ¼ the normal amount given tonight. Tomorrow <animal> can go back to a normal feeding schedule.
- ☑ **Water** Offer normal amount.
- ☑ **Exercise** <Animal> needs to be confined tonight. Restrict all activities for 10 days. Use a leash when bringing <Animal> outside to urinate and defecate.
 - No chasing balls
 - No walks
 - No jumpingToo much activity can lead to fluid buildup under the incision.
- ☑ **Incision Care** Check the incision every day. Look for any swelling, discharge or redness. Make sure <animal> is not licking at the incision excessively. A small amount of cleaning/licking is ok. A bitter substance (Listerine, lemon extract, Tabasco or Bitter Apple) can be applied around the incision site, but not on the incision to help prevent this from occurring. We have products at the hospital as well for anti-licking purposes.
- ☑ **Medications** Give any medications as directed.
- ☑ **Sutures** <Animal> may or may not have sutures that need to be removed in ten days. If so, please make an appointment. (no charge)
- ☑ **Eyes** While under anesthesia, animals do not blink. We apply eye ointment, but in rare cases, some animals may need some to go home. If you notice any redness or squinting of the eyes, please let us know.

Please give <animal> a quiet place to rest tonight and keep them away from any open staircases. Also, do not allow children to handle <animal> at all for the first night, and for 3- 4 days only under your direct supervision. Each animal recovers from anesthesia at a different rate. Some animals are back to normal within 24 hours, while others taking as long as 3 – 4 days to fully recuperate.

Call the hospital if you see any of the following or have any questions.

603 – 692 - 2333

- Vomiting after 24 hours
- Diarrhea
- Refusal to eat or drink
- Fluid, redness or drainage of incision site
- Lethargy
- Red or squinting of eyes
- Severe pain
- Change in general health or behavior

