



# Calgary Pet Wellness and Spay/Neuter Clinic

3563 – 52 Street SE, Calgary, AB, T2B 3R3

Ph: 403-569-7387 Fax: 403-569-7322

email@calgaryspayandneuter.ca

www.calgaryspayandneuter.ca

online store: www.calgarypetwellness.clientvantage.ca

## SURGERY HOME CARE INSTRUCTIONS - SPAY

### SURGICAL PROCEDURE:

- Your pet had major abdominal surgery today. She was unconscious during the operation.
- An incision was made in the abdominal wall and the ovaries (ovariectomy) or both the ovaries and uterus (ovariohysterectomy) were removed.

### MEDICATIONS:

- Please follow the prescription labels.
- Do not alter the dosage or frequency of any prescribed medications without consulting a veterinarian.
- If you feel your pet's medications need to be altered or refilled, please contact us.

### WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER SURGERY:

- Your pet may be groggy, sleepy or unsteady from the anesthesia. However, she should still be responsive and able to move around, including being able to go to the bathroom and interact quietly with you.
- Please try to keep your pet quiet. Refrain from exercise and play, and allow your pet to rest.
- Your pet will typically require 24 hours to recover to a normal energy and attitude after anesthesia. She should be back to normal once the anesthetic has left her system entirely.
- ***If your pet seems excessively sleepy, having trouble moving around, or is not very responsive, please contact us, OR see the after-hours emergency contact information below.***

### INCISION SITE:

- Check the incision site daily for 10-14 days.
- A small amount of swelling, redness or bruising can occur.
- Cats can commonly have a suture reaction, causing inflammation in the tissue under the incision. This can result in a round, semi-firm lump under the incision. It will resolve on its own in time.
- Do not clean or apply any topical ointments to the incision site.
- ***If there are any concerns about the appearance of the incision, please email us photos to email@calgaryspayandneuter.ca***

### SUTURES:

- Sutures are buried and are absorbable (unless you are told otherwise).
- If skin sutures or staples are present, your pet will need to return in 10-14 days to have those removed. Please call to schedule an appointment for this.

**DO NOT ALLOW YOUR PET TO LICK OR CHEW THE INCISION. USE A CONE OR A MEDICAL PET SHIRT TO PREVENT SELF-TRAUMA**

**FEEDING:**

- Your pet may not want to eat when she gets home after surgery, as she may still be too sleepy, or even nauseous from the anesthesia.
- Try to re-introduce food slowly. Offer a small amount of food and water when your pet is fully awake. If vomiting occurs, wait until the next day to give more food. Provide the normal amount of food and water to your pet the day after surgery.
- Your pet's appetite should gradually return to normal within 24 hours.
- ***Please contact us if you have any concerns about your pet's appetite, or see the after-hours emergency contact information below.***

**ACTIVITY:**

- The healing process usually takes 10-14 days. Activity and exercise will need to be restricted during this time. Consider confinement or a crate when unsupervised.
- Your pet should be kept on a leash during healing, and should not be allowed to run, jump, rough play, swim during the recovery period.
- Do not bathe your pet or have her groomed during this time.

**POTENTIAL COMPLICATIONS:**

- If any of the below signs are noted, please seek urgent veterinary attention:
  - Pale gums
  - Excessive bleeding from the incision
  - Depression or unresponsiveness
  - Difficulty urinating
  - Labored breathing
  - Lethargy lasting more than 48 hours

***In case of after-hours inquiries or emergency, please contact:***

***Fish Creek 24Hr Pet Hospital  
15311 Bannister Road SE  
403-873-1700***

***Or***

***McKnight 24Hr Veterinary Hospital  
34 – 5010 4 St NE  
403-457-0911***