



Calgary Pet Wellness and Spay/Neuter Clinic

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email@calgaryspayandneuter.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 both the ovaries and uterus (ovariohysterectomy) were removed.

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.***

FEEDING:

- Your pet may not want to eat when he/she gets home after surgery, as he/she may still be a bit sleepy, or even nauseous from the anesthesia. **Re-introduce food slowly.** Offer a small amount of food (about ½ to ¼ of a normal meal amount) and water when your pet is fully awake. -If no vomiting occurs after about 30min -1 hour, you can then offer your pet the rest of their normal meal amount. -If vomiting occurs, please wait until the next day to offer more food. Your pet's appetite should gradually return to normal within 24 hours. Provide the normal amount of food and water to your pet the day after surgery. • ***Please contact us if you have any concerns about your pet's appetite, or see the after-hours emergency contact information below.***

MEDICATIONS:

- Please follow the prescription label(s). Please 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.

ACTIVITY:

- The healing process usually takes 10-14 days. Activity and exercise need to be restricted during this time. You may consider confinement in a familiar, cozy room, or in a crate (if they are crate trained) when you are unable to directly supervise them. • If your pet routinely "does their business" upon leash walks, please be sure to keep them on the leash at all times, and only walk a very short distance, slowly. During the healing period, it is very important to prevent your pet from running, jumping, rough play, and swimming, etc. • Please do not bathe your pet or have her groomed during this time.

INCISION SITE:

- Check the incision site daily for 10-14 days. • Ensure the E-collar (cone) is on 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

POTENTIAL COMPLICATIONS: If any of the below signs are noted, please seek urgent veterinary attention:

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| o Pale gums | o Depression or unresponsiveness |
| o Excessive bleeding from the incision | o Difficulty urinating |
| o Labored breathing | o Lethargy lasting more than 48 hours |

FOR AFTER HOURS INQUIRES OR AN EMERGENCY, PLEASE CONTACT:

PARAMOUNT 24 HR ANIMAL HOSPITAL
5111 Northland Dr NW #4110
403-300-9111

ALPINE 24/7 PET HOSPITAL
5707 Macleod Trail SW
403-212-4008