

Port Veterinary Clinic
POST SURGICAL CARE AND INSTRUCTION

For: _____

Thank you for spaying/neutering your pets! Although it is a common procedure recommended for all animals, please remember that your pet has just gone through SURGERY and he/she needs proper care to recover, including a clean, warm, and dry place to recovery indoors. Your pet may act a little disoriented or "drunk" for up to 48 hours after the surgery. All pets react different to anesthesia and surgery. This is normal and you should see a gradual improvement.

Please pay attention to the following instructions carefully:

- **NO FOOD OR WATER** until the time specified. Feed small amounts at first. But don't worry if your pet doesn't eat the night of surgery. It is recommended not to feed 12 hours post surgery.

Specified Time:

- Small amounts of water tonight, Eat and drink as normal tomorrow.
- Eat and Drink as normal when they get home.

- **PAIN MEDICATION.** There is some minor discomfort after the surgery but no pain. Any oral or topical medicine not prescribed by a doctor is dangerous to your pet! Aspirin can be given to dogs at a dose of childrens aspirin for toy to small breeds. Medium to large breeds can be given 1 adult aspirin every 12 hours. Giant breeds 2 Aspirin every 12 hours. Cats should not be given aspirin unless prescribe by the veterinarian and then only one time. Do **NOT** give Tylenol, Ibuprofen.

If you elect any of the post op pain management options please follow the directions given below and disregard any of the above information.

- One Time Injection (Ketofen injection): Given on _____ at _____. Do not give any other medication until the injection has worn off which lasts 24 hours.
- Pills (Tramadol 50mg): Give _____ tablet(s) twice daily as needed for pain. Start _____
- Other: _____

Other Medication: For any dental work and some surgeries your pet will need to be on antibiotics. Please give all the medication with the following directions and until gone.

Medication: _____ Directions: _____ Start the medication: _____

- **DISCOURAGE LICKING** at the incision site!! Licking or chewing might lead to an infection or cause the incision to open. If this happens re stitching is not possible without going thru another surgery and re opening the incision. There are multiple layers of sutures with any surgery. The best way to discourage licking is to find your pet something else to do such as give them a rawhide, or take them outside.
- **NO CLAY CAT LITTER** for declawing. Use **SHREDDED PAPER, or the clumping type litter**, for at least one week. Litter dust can get trapped in the incision site and cause an infection.
- **JUMPING, PLAYING RESTRICTED** or strenuous activity for 2 to 3 days, as it can cause sutures to reopen. Most times your pet will restrict himself. Overly active pets should be confined for at least 12 hours.
- **NO BATHING or SWIMMING** for at least 5 to 7 days. Water can get into the sutures and cause an infection.
- **SUTURE REMOVAL.**
 - Sometimes we use a surgical vet skin glue that will dissolve on it's own. This is usually done in cat neuters and spays, and on dog neuters. There is a layer of internal stitching under the glue.
 - Should be performed in 10 days post opt. Call to make an appointment.

Next appointment: _____

- **Check the incision daily** to ensure that the surgery site is clean and healing well. Peroxide with cotton balls or a cloth with warm water can release any build up of hair and old blood with gentle wiping to keep the area clean.

- **Keep your pet away from other animals.** Keep males away from unspayed females in season. Neutered males produce testosterone for up to 30 days after surgery and can get an unspayed female pregnant. Animals returning from the clinic may smell different to other animals in the household, which can cause the animals to fight. Keep cats in the carriers or in a separate room until the cat is ready to eat at the time specified by the doctor..
- **It's okay to** feel a hard bump at the incision site. You can put a cool compress on the site to ease the swelling. Sometimes you will see a little purple knot at the surgical site emerge. This is the internal stitching and is perfectly normal. It will dissolve on it's own in time.
- **IT IS Not okay** if this bump gets much bigger or starts to leak pus or blood.
- **Orange Staining** You may notice some orange or yellow staining around your pet's incision area. This is iodine, which is used in surgery to help ensure everything is sterile. We do the best to clean up your pet post op, but the iodine does stain their skin. The remainder of the staining will go away in a day or two.
- **Some pets** might have diarrhea or vomiting for a few days as the anesthesia works its way out of their system – feed the dog plain boiled chicken or hamburger and rice (3 parts rice to 1 part meat) for 3 days; if diarrhea or vomiting persists, contact the office.
- **It's not okay if** your pet vomits too much. Your pet might have nausea from the anesthesia and vomit that night or the next day, but should stop after 72 hours.

If your pet is experiencing problems, call Dr. Dittmar's cell phone with emergencies only at 414- 852-0067. For non-emergency questions call the clinic during regular hours at 262-284-7103 to schedule an appointment. We offer free post op care for 2 weeks after surgery.

We care about your pet and want to make this ordeal as comfortable for you and your pet as possible.

The staff at:
Port Veterinary Clinic
118 S. Webster St.
Port Washington, WI 53074
Office: 262-284-7103
Emergency: 414-852-0067
Fax: 262-284-4051
Email: drpawprinz@aol.com