

After Surgery

Limit Activity

No running, jumping, playing, swimming or other strenuous activity for 7 to 10 days. Keep your pet quiet. Pets must be kept indoors where they can stay clean, dry and warm. No baths during the recovery period. Dogs must be walked on a leash and cats kept indoors.

Check Their Incision

Check the incision site twice daily. There should be no drainage. Redness and swelling should be minimal. Do not allow your pet to lick or chew at the incision. If this occurs, an Elizabethan collar **MUST** be applied to prevent it (these can be purchased at our clinic for \$5.00).

Tattoo

Your pet received a green tattoo next to their incision. This tattoo is a scoring process in the skin; **IT IS NOT AN EXTRA INCISION**. This tattoo identifies that your animal has been spayed or neutered.

Diet

Do not change your pet's diet at this time and do not give junk food, table scraps, milk or any other people food during the recovery period. This could mask post-surgical complications.

Post-Operative Examination

We recommend your pet receive a post-operative examination 7 to 10 days after surgery. You can bring the animal back to our clinic between 11:00 am-2:00 pm, Monday-Friday, or to your regular veterinarian. This is to have the incision checked for complete healing, and to discuss additional needs and follow-up care.

Look Out for Complications

Appetite should return gradually within 24 hours of surgery. Lethargy lasting for more than 24 hours post-op, diarrhea, or vomiting are not normal and your pet should be taken to your regular veterinarian. Dogs may have a slight cough for a few days after surgery.

Call If You Have Concerns

If there are any questions or concerns directly related to the surgery during the recovery period, please call this office during business hours at 941-747-8808 x306. If there is an emergency after hours, contact your regular veterinarian or the Veterinary Emergency Center at 941-896-9420. The Veterinary Emergency Center is located at 3915 Cortez Rd., Bradenton.

The Humane Society of Manatee County will treat at our clinic, at minimal cost, any post-op complications resulting directly from the surgery, if the above post-op instructions are followed in full. Your regular veterinarian must address illnesses or injuries that are not a direct result of surgery. Please call for an appointment as soon as you see cause for concern. We cannot be held responsible for complications resulting from failure to follow post-op instructions, or for contagious diseases for which the animal was not previously properly vaccinated.