



Post-Operative Instructions

1. All animals should be kept indoors for the next 10 days while their incisions are healing. It's important they be kept indoors where they can stay clean, dry, and warm. If you cannot keep your pet indoors for 10 days, they should at least be kept inside for the first 48 hours after surgery; dogs must be walked on a leash.
2. NO running, jumping, playing, swimming or other strenuous activity for 10 days. Keep your pet calm. NO baths during the recovery period. Unless directed by a veterinarian, do not attempt to clean the incision area with water, peroxide or any other solution.
3. Check the incision site twice daily. There should be no drainage from the incisions. Redness and swelling should be minimal. DO NOT allow your pet to lick or chew at the incision. If this occurs, an E-Collar *MUST* be worn to prevent additional licking and chewing that could cause infection or sutures to open. We sell the collars for \$10, or you can purchase one at a pet store. Do not purchase flexible style that can easily bend. If you're unsure about size, please consult with our staff/store staff to advise on proper fit.
4. Appetite should return gradually within 24 hours after surgery. Lethargy, diarrhea or vomiting lasting for more than 24 hours after surgery are not normal. Your pet should be taken to your regular veterinarian. It is normal for dogs to have a slight cough for a few days after surgery.
5. Do not change your pet's diet at this time and do not give them junk food, table scraps, milk, or any other human food during the recovery period. This could mask post-surgical complications. Do not offer your pet any treats for the first 24 hours.
6. 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.
7. At the time of surgery, your pet was given an injection of a 24-hour NSAID pain medication. Any further pain medication isn't typically needed. If a full 24 hours has passed and your pet is acting like it's in pain (won't sit/lay down, whimpering, etc.), please contact us or a primary vet for a follow-up visit so veterinarian can determine nature of pain and treatment.

8. Pet Fix Savannah will treat at our clinic (free of charge or at minimal cost) any post-operative complications resulting directly from the surgery if the above post-operative instructions are followed in full. Your regular veterinarian must address illness or injuries that are not a direct result of the surgery. Please call for an appointment as soon you see a cause for concern. We cannot be held responsible for complications resulting from failure to follow post-operative instructions or for contagious diseases, for which the animal was not previously properly vaccinated.

IMPORTANT –

- If you have any questions or concerns after surgery, including incision questions, please call;

Monday-Thursday 7:30am-5:30pm: (912) 354-6265

- If you have an Emergency concern regarding your pet's surgery or incision site while we are closed, please call our on-call staff member emergency line;

Monday-Thursday 7pm-11pm and Friday-Sunday 7am-11pm: (912) 661-2793

Holiday hours: 7am-11pm: (912) 661-2793

SAME DAY GO HOME

Cats - Keep in warm/dark room alone for the night. Keep children and other pets away from cat until tomorrow. Sometimes the anesthesia will change the cat's behavior. **Do not** stick fingers in the carrier if pet is growling or hissing. This should go away the next day.

Dogs - Let pet rest when you get home. Keep children and other pets away until tomorrow. When taking dog out for bathroom breaks, please take out on a leash.

Feeding - Water is okay. Feed $\frac{1}{4}$ of what you would normally feed your pet this evening, then $\frac{1}{2}$ of what you would normally feed your pet tomorrow morning, then resume normal feeding tomorrow night. Due to anesthesia, pet may not have appetite until following evening after surgery.