



## Community and Shelter Medicine

### Post-Operative Discharge Instructions

Spay Waggin' Helpline: 857-350-8723

#### Remainder of today

- Keep your pet *warm and dry* for the remainder of today.
- Your pet may be groggy at pick up, but they will continue to become more alert over the course of the afternoon and evening.
- You can offer your pet their normal dinner tonight. However, they may not be interested. Contact us if they still do not seem interested in eating after 24 hours
- Your pet may have been intubated today. It is normal if your pet coughs for the next couple days.
- Check your pet's incision hourly for the remainder of today. Your cat should be confined to a quiet room (ie: bedroom or bathroom) with their litterbox and food/water until the following morning.

#### Reduce your pet's activity level

- **Dogs should be leash walked only** for the next 14 days. No running, climbing, ball-chasing, rough-housing, or playing with other dogs during this recovery period.
- **Cats should be kept indoors** for the next 14 days.

#### Incision care

- You must **check your pet's incision 2x daily (morning and night)** Incisions are located on the abdomen for females and near or on the scrotum for males. Check for any bleeding, pus, seepage, swelling or any kind of opening from the incision. Some females develop a walnut size lump at on or at the incision site; this is common especially in young cats/dogs.
- **Keep your pet from licking the incision. This is extremely important.** Please purchase an Elizabethan cone collar (lamp shade cone) from a pet supply store and place on your pet the day of surgery. Your pet should wear it for 14 days.
- The incision must be kept dry for the next 14 days. Do not bathe your pet or apply any products to the incision.
- A small green tattoo will be applied near the incision of each dog and cat having surgery. This green tattoo is an indicator that your pet has been spayed or neutered.
- Your pet does not need to return for suture removal. All sutures used today are dissolvable and internal.

#### Follow up care

- If you have concerns or questions regarding your pet's spay/neuter surgery, **FIRST** call the **Spay Waggin' Helpline and leave a message**. We are committed to the health of our patients and need to know of any issues regarding the surgery. Be aware that any services performed at another facility will be at your own cost.

#### Spay Waggin' Helpline

Monday - Thursday

7 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**(857) 350-8723**

(Appointments: 877.590.7729)

#### New England Animal Medical Center

595 West Center St

West Bridgewater, MA 02379

**Emergency (508) 580-2515**

General Practice (508) 584-1600

#### Veterinary Urgent Care Centers

Quincy: 617-481-5197

Plymouth: 774-608-7016

Easton: 508-817-5088

veturgentcare.com

- We encourage you to seek out a relationship with a veterinarian for the long-term health of your pet. Your pet should be seen annually by a veterinarian.

The Animal Rescue League of Boston is funded entirely by donations. Please consider donating to the Animal Rescue League of Boston so that we may be able to continue to offer this important service to others.