

Surgical After-Care Instructions

General

- Your pet has recently been under general anesthesia, he may be quiet or sleepy for the rest of the day. This is completely normal. Keep you pet in a confined area away from stairs. When you let your pet out to urinate/defecate, please stay with them and observe to ensure they don't stumble, bump, or hurt themselves.
- Offer small amounts of food and water this evening. If there is not vomiting you can offer a little more. Stop all water and food if your pet vomits. You can feed and water normally tomorrow. Watch your pet's appetite, it may be decreased for a few days after surgery. If a decrease in appetite persists for more than two days, please call our clinic
- Limit your pet's activity and exercise for one week. Leash walks are best and discourage from any jumping or strenuous activity. If your pet is too active right after surgery, the healing process may be delayed and/or may lead to large swellings under the incision.
- Look at the incision daily for one week. Watch for signs of pain, redness, swelling, discharge, bleeding, loss of stitches. Your pet should not lick excessively at the incision. If you notice any of these signs, please call our clinic.
- Do not bath, groom or allow your pet to become wet for two weeks after surgery. Regular brushing is fine.
- Do not give your pet any pain relievers such as Aspirin, Ibuprofen, Tylenol. These drugs may be toxic.

Neuter Or Spay

- Sutures are under the skin and will dissolve. This may take 4-6 months. If your pet is irritated by them, you may schedule an appointment for a recheck at no additional cost.

***These are general after care instructions for all patients that have surgical procedures at Birch Lake Animal Hospital. Your veterinarian may have more specific recommendations for your pet based on the type of procedure performed. When your pet is discharged a technician will go over all of your pet's instructions including any medications being sent home.*