

# Spay Discharge Instructions

Your pet was placed under general anesthetic, and may be groggy or quiet for the next 1-2 days. Please call us if this persists past 2 days. Please provide a quiet, comfortable place to rest for the remainder of the day.

## **ET TUBE**

Your pet had an endotracheal (breathing or ET) tube placed for the procedure. You may notice some gurgling, coughing, or a hoarse voice for the next couple of days. If these signs persist, or if there is any trouble breathing, please contact the clinic as soon as possible.

## **DIET**

Because your pet was placed under anesthetic, there may be some nausea or stomach upset. Please only feed a small meal tonight, and normal feeding can resume tomorrow. One episode of vomiting or diarrhea is ok, however if it continues please contact the clinic. Once a pet is spayed, it changes the hormone balance in the body, and pets will have a tendency to gain weight. You will need to monitor this closely over the next few years to ensure your pet stays fit and trim! If you have any questions regarding nutrition, please let us know!

## **INCISION**

The incision will initially appear as red line on their belly. Assess the incision daily - look for persistent redness, swelling, or discharge/oozing such as blood or pus. If you happen to notice any of these signs, please call the clinic. Please do not groom, bath, or apply any topical ointments or creams to the incision as this could delay healing.

## **SUTURES/STITCHES**

The sutures are hidden under the skin and will dissolve on their own. There is no need to have them removed. You may see a small knot at one end. This is normal and will dissolve on its own.

## **E-COLLAR**

---

Your pet has been sent home with an E-collar to prevent licking and chewing at the incision, and should stay on for the entire healing process of 10-14 days. Pets can do damage quickly to the incision without an e-collar on. Although many pets struggle at first, they will quickly learn to eat, drink, sleep and walk with it on. Failure to prevent licking may require additional medications, or even another surgery to repair.

## **PAIN**

Your pet had pain medication during surgery, and is going home with additional medication for the next few days. However, if you see any signs of pain despite this medication (being overly quiet or tense, reduced activity, licking, guarding or shying away from touching the incision, not eating), please call the clinic. We want them to be comfortable during recovery! Please do not medicate your pet with any over the counter medications, such as Advil, Tylenol, or Aspirin, as these can be toxic and do more harm than good.

## **EXERCISE**

It is important to restrict exercise for the next 2 weeks to prevent any excessive tension on the incision. If this occurs, the sutures could break and the incision could unravel, and potentially requiring emergency surgery. After 2 weeks they can resume normal activity levels.

## **FOLLOW UP**

We would like to see your pet back for a surgical recheck in 10-14 days. There is no charge for this visit so long as there are no new concerns.

If you have any concerns please call the Hillside Veterinary Clinic at (905) 895-6065.  
After hours, please call the 404 Emergency Clinic at (905) 953-1933.