







HEALTHCARE & EMERGENCY ANIMAL RESCUE TEAM

a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization

POST-SURGERY HOME CARE INSTRUCTIONS

- ✓ DO NOT leave your pet alone for the first 24 hours after surgery. Pets must be supervised and kept quiet and comfortable. Grogginess, instability, and stomach upset can occur from anesthesia.
- ✓ Do NOT offer food or water to your pet upon returning home. For the first couple of hours, you may give one or two ice cubes for your pet to lick while under your supervision so that it doesn't swallow or choke on it. You may periodically offer small amounts of water when your pet is no longer groggy and is walking normally, and after 3 hours, it may have free access to water. You may offer your pet its normal amount of food approximately 8 hours after arriving home.
- ✓ CATS must stay indoors for 10 - 14 days until the incision site is healed and the sutures are removed (if there are sutures to remove). Use shredded paper or paper towels in the litter box instead of regular kitty litter during that time to prevent any grains of litter or even dust particles from irritating or infecting the incision area.
- ✓ DO NOT allow your pet to climb stairs, jump on or off furniture, run, or partake in any off-leash exercise for the first 14 days following surgery. Short walks on a leash are acceptable as long as you can keep your pet from getting excited where it might jump or fall and potentially cause the incision area to open.
- ✓ DO NOT allow your pet to lick or chew the incision. Your pet must continue wearing the "E-collar" at all times for at least 10 days after its surgery; however, you may remove the E-collar for short periods of time ONLY if you are able to monitor your pet every minute to prevent it from licking or chewing the incision. Remember to place the E-collar back on your pet at any time you are not able to monitor your pet. The E-collar should not be tight, yet not too loose where your pet can pull it off.
- ✓ Make sure that your pet is able to access its water and food bowls while wearing the E-collar, as it is cumbersome and often difficult for pets to maneuver and judge distances properly. Use water and food dishes for your pet which are smaller than the circumference/diameter of the E-collar. Place water and food dishes away from the wall to help ensure easier access for your pet while wearing the E-collar.
- ✓ CHECK the incision at least twice a day until healed (approximately 14 days). A small amount of blood seepage may be normal right after surgery, but if it continues longer than 24 hours or if there is increased swelling, redness or discharge, let us know immediately.
- ✓ KEEP THE INCISION AREA CLEAN and DRY for at least 14 days after surgery. You may GENTLY clean AROUND, NOT ON, the incision with hydrogen peroxide with a cotton ball. Please make sure that your pet lays on clean bedding. DO NOT allow your pet to lay or roll on dirt, sand, grass, or pavement. NO bathing of your pet, or allowing it to swim or splash around water until the at least 14 days after its surgery, and the incision must be perfectly healed at that time.
- ✓ IF YOUR PET HAS SUTURES, THEY MUST BE REMOVED BY A VETERINARIAN IN 14 DAYS. IF THERE ARE NO SUTURES TO REMOVE, then there are sutures under the skin which in time will dissolve, and the outer layer of skin at the incision site was closed with tissue glue. If you see any sutures work their way through the skin, call us.
- ✓ If there is a colored line at the incision site, your pet was TATTOOED during the surgery. This provides easy proof that your pet has been spayed/neutered.
- ✓ NEVER give your pet any medication unless it was prescribed by a veterinarian. NEVER give your pet Tylenol or Aspirin, as they can both be fatal to your pet. Your pet may be sore for several days; however, if it appears to be very painful after two days post-surgery, please call us.

SEEK EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE FOR YOUR PET IF:

-  Pet is or becomes non-responsive or difficult to awaken or if gums appear pale (normal color of gums are pink); or
-  Pet has difficulty breathing or shows any indication of pain, struggling or crying; or
-  Pet begins vomiting, has diarrhea, or becomes constipated; or
-  Pet's incision is oozing fluid or blood or if any portion of the incision opens.

Contact a veterinarian or an emergency pet hospital closest to you. (See reverse side for potentially open Emergency Pet Hospitals).

EMERGENCY PET HOSPITALS

Orange County, Los Angeles & Riverside Counties

(Providing services to pets from any city/county - Call hospital first to confirm days & hours open)

FOUNTAIN VALLEY / GARDEN GROVE AREAS

VCA West Coast Specialty & Emerg Animal Hosp
18300 Euclid St., Fountain Valley, 92708

Open: 24 hrs / 7 days
(714) 241-9001

Orange County Emergency Pet Clinic
12750 Garden Grove Blvd., Garden Grove, 92843

Open: Mon - Fri 6pm - 7am; Sat 12 pm - Mon 7am; Holidays 24 hrs
(714) 462-1829

NEWPORT BEACH / IRVINE AREAS

Central Orange County Emergency Animal Hospital
3720 Campus Dr., Ste D, Newport Beach, 92660

Open: Mon - Fri 6pm - 8 am; Sat & Sun 24 hrs
(949) 261-7979

Blue Pearl Pet Hospital
1371 Reynolds Ave., Irvine, 92614

Open: 24 hrs / 7 days
(949) 833-9020

RSM / MISSION VIEJO / LAKE FOREST AREAS

Animal Urgent Care of South Orange County
28085 Hillcrest, Mission Viejo, 92692

Open: Mon - Thurs 6pm - 8am; Fri 6pm - 12am; Sat & Sun 24 hrs
(949) 334-2359

BrightCare Veterinary Group
26012 Marguerite Pkwy, Ste O, Mission Viejo, 92692

Open: 24 hrs / 7 days
(949) 716-9270

TUSTIN AREA

Advanced Veterinary Specialty Group Urgent Care
2965 Edinger, Tustin, 92780

Open: 24 hrs / 7 days
(949) 653-9300

YORBA LINDA / ANAHEIM HILLS / FULLERTON AREAS

VCA Yorba Regional Animal Hospital
8290 E. Crystal Dr., Anaheim, 92807

Open: 24 hrs / 7 days
(714) 921-8700

No Orange County Emergency Pet Clinic
3920 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton, 92835

Open: Mon - Fri 6 pm -7 am; Sat 12 pm - Mon 7am; Holidays 24 hrs
(714) 681-1979

DIAMOND BAR / LA PUENTE / EL MONTE AREAS

East Valley Emergency Pet Clinic
938 N. Diamond Bar Blvd., Diamond Bar, 91765

Open: Mon - Fri 6pm - 8 am; Sat - Sun & Holidays 24 hrs
(909) 861-5737

LA MIRADA / HAWAIIAN GARDENS / NORWALK AREAS

CIEL Animal Hospital
22017 Norwalk Blvd. Hawaiian Gardens, 90716

Open: Mon - Sat 9am - 6 pm
(562)541-1288

Crossroads Animal Emergency & Referral Center
11057 E. Rosecrans Ave., Norwalk, 90650

Open: 24 hrs / 7 days
(562) 863-2522

RIVERSIDE AREA

Animal Emergency Clinic
22085 Commerce Way, Grand Terrace, 92313

Open: Mon - Fri 6pm - 8 am; Sat - Sun & Holidays 24 hrs
(909) 825-9350

Arlington Animal Hospital
4229 Van Buren Blvd., Riverside, 92503

Open: 24 hrs / 7 days
(951) 689-0440