



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 Emergency Pet Hospitals).

EMERGENCY PET HOSPITALS

Los Angeles County

We are not responsible for the accuracy of the following information.
Please call the pet hospital before traveling there to confirm this information.

EMERGENCY PET HOSPITAL OF GLENDORA

500 S. Glendora Ave.
Glendora, CA 91740
(626) 594-0356

Open: Mon - Fri 6:00 pm - 8:00 am
Sat & Sun 24 hours

WASHINGTON BLVD ANIMAL HOSPITAL

12116 E. Washington Blvd.
Whittier, CA 90606
(562) 693-8233

Open: 7:00 am - 10:00 pm, 7 days a week

EAST VALLEY EMERGENCY PET CLINIC

938 N. Diamond Bar Blvd., Diamond Bar, 91765
(909) 861-5737

Open: Mon - Fri 6:00 pm - 8:00 am
Sat & Sun 24 hours
Holidays 24 hours

CIEL ANIMAL HOSPITAL

22017 Norwalk Blvd. Hawaiian Gardens, 90716
(562)541-1288

Open: Mon - Sat 9:00 am - 6:00 pm

CROSSROADS ANIMAL EMERGENCY & REFERRAL CENTER

11057 E. Rosecrans Ave., Norwalk, 90650
(562) 863-2522

Open: 24 hours / 7 days a week