



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, as it can easily become infected. Your pet must wear either a "post-surgical recovery suit" or an "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 and the post-surgical recovery suit should not be tight, yet they should not be loose enough 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.
- ✓ Your pet was TATTOOED at or near the incision site with a small colored line. This helps prove that your pet has been spayed/neutered; however, the Certificate of Sterility provided to you can be used as absolute proof.
- ✓ We may have dispensed pain medication for your pet. Use as instructed. 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.

Immediately Contact a Veterinarian or Emergency Pet Hospital in your area if your pet experiences any of the symptoms listed below.

(See Reverse Side of Page for a list of some Emergency Pet Hospitals)

-  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.



EMERGENCY PET HOSPITALS



Call hospital to confirm if open before traveling to the hospital.

This list has been provided as a courtesy. HEART is not responsible for the accuracy of information provided on this list.



24/7 reflects hospitals open 24 hrs a day, 7 days a week. A red asterick * reflects hospitals which carry snakebite antivenom.

ORANGE COUNTY

ANAHEIM & ANAHEIM HILLS

Case Animal Hospital	1400 N. Burton Pl., Anaheim 92806	(657) 999-1150	24/7
VCA Yorba Regional Animal Hospital	8290 E. Crystal Dr., Anaheim, 92807	(714) 921-8700	24/7 *
Veterinary Emergency Group ("VEG")	701 S. Weir Canyon Rd., Ste 101, Anaheim Hills 92808	(714) 616-5570	24/7 *

FOUNTAIN VALLEY

VCA West Coast Specialty & Emerg Animal Hosp	18300 Euclid St., Fountain Valley, 92708	(714) 241-9001	24/7
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FULLERTON

North Orange County Emergency Pet Clinic	3920 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton, 92835	(714) 870-1471	*
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GARDEN GROVE

Orange County Emergency Pet Clinic	12750 Garden Grove Blvd., Garden Grove, 92843	(714) 537-3032	
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IRVINE

Blue Pearl Pet Hospital	1371 Reynolds Ave., Irvine, 92614	(949) 833-9020	24/7 *
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MISSION VIEJO

Animal Urgent Care of South Orange County	28085 Hillcrest, Mission Viejo, 92692	(949) 334-2359	*
Brightcare Veterinary Group	26012 Marguerite Pkwy, Ste O, Mission Viejo, 92692	(949) 716-9270	24/7 *

NEWPORT BEACH

Central Orange County Emergency Animal Hospital	3720 Campus Dr., Ste D, Newport Beach, 92660	(949) 261-7979	*
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TUSTIN

VCA Orange County Veterinary Specialists	23021 Edinger, Tustin, 92780	(949) 654-8950	24/7 *
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LOS ANGELES COUNTY

CERRITOS

VCA Lakewood Animal Hospital	10701 South St., Cerritos, 90703	(562) 926-3600	24/7
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DIAMOND BAR

East Valley Emergency Pet Clinic	938 N. Diamond Bar Blvd., Diamond Bar, 91765	(909) 861-5737	*
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GLENDORA

Emergency Pet Hospital of Glendora	500 S. Glendora Ave., Glendora, 91740	(626) 594-0356	*
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NORWALK

Crossroads Animal Emergency & Referral Center	11057 E. Rosecrans Ave., Norwalk, 90650	(562) 863-2522	24/7
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RIVERSIDE COUNTY

CORONA

Corona Animal Emergency Center	541 N. Main St., Unit 107, Corona, 92880	(951) 482-5137	24/7
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GRAND TERRACE

Animal Emergency Clinic	22085 Commerce Way, Grand Terrace, 92313	(909) 825-9350	*
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RIVERSIDE

Arlington Animal Hospital	4229 Van Buren Blvd., Riverside, 92503	(951) 689-0440	24/7 *
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