



Aftercare Information:

Patient: _____

Date: _____

Client: _____

Exercise: Pets recovering from surgery or illness should have limited exercise. Please avoid stairs. Due to the effects of pain medications your pet may be a bit groggy for up to 12 hours.

- _____ Your pet should have restricted exercise and activity for the next 7-10 days.
- _____ Keep your pet confined indoors for _____ days. Please take outside on a leash only for restroom breaks.
- _____ Keep your pet under strict confinement (either in a cage or a small room) for _____ days.
- _____ Carry outside for eliminations. Do not permit running, jumping, or access to stairs.

Medications:

- _____ None dispensed.
- _____ A fentanyl pain patch has been applied and needs to be removed in 3-5 days.
- _____ The following medications should be given to your pet as directed:
 1. _____ Please start this evening / tomorrow morning.
 2. _____ Please start this evening / tomorrow morning.
 3. _____ Please start this evening / tomorrow morning.
 4. _____ Please start this evening / tomorrow morning.

Food and Water: Pets sometimes drink and eat excessively after returning home from surgery. Please restrict access to water for an hour upon returning. Then allow small amounts of food and water the next 8 hours. You can resume normal feeding tomorrow morning.

- _____ Feed your pet his/her regular diet.
- _____ Feed multiple smaller meals 4-5 times a day.
- _____ Feed a special diet.

Special:

- _____ Apply a warm compress (warm damp washcloth) to the wound for 10-15 minutes 3-4 times a day for _____ days.
- _____ Do not use gravel litter for 14 days. Use shredded paper or commercial paper litter such as "Yesterdays News".

Rechecks: Please call us at **562-961-0028** to schedule for the following:

- _____ Drain removal in _____ days.
- _____ Suture removal in _____ days.
- _____ Sutures are absorbable and do not require removal.
- _____ Bandage check/change in _____ days.
- _____ Recheck exam with a doctor in _____ days.

Incision Care: As an incision heals it can feel very itchy to a pet. After a few good scratches a pet can seriously damage an incision site and even pull out all of their sutures (both skin sutures, staples, and buried absorbable suture). Therefore, it is imperative that we prevent pets from scratching at their incisions. In most cases this complication can be avoided by the use of an Elizabethan Collar or E-collar.

- _____ An E-collar should be worn by your pet for _____ days.
- _____ Monitor the incision twice daily for any excessive swelling, redness, or discharge. Please notify us if the incision appears irritated or infected.

Post-operative concerns: Many patients may not have a bowel movement for 24-36 hours after surgery. They may also have a slight cough and a decrease in activity or appetite for 1-2 days. However, if you notice a loss of appetite for greater than two days, refusal to drink for greater than one day, weakness, depression, vomiting, diarrhea, or persistent or worsening cough please contact us!

Client Signature: _____

Date: _____