

Post-Operative Instructions

1. Do **NOT** leave your pet alone until the morning after surgery. Periodically monitor your pet after returning home to ensure its continued recovery after surgery. Furthermore, all dogs and cats must be kept warm and indoors for 24 hours after surgery to help prevent possible complications, or even death, as a result of exposure to outdoor temperature extremes. **Do not take your cat out of the cat carrier before getting home**

2. Because stomach upset can occur after anesthesia, do not offer food or water to pet/s immediately upon returning home. For the first 3 hours, you may give one or two ice cubes to lick or chew on. After 3 hours, you may offer ¼ the normal amount of food, and small amounts of water every 3 hours. You can gradually increase the amount of food and water over the next 24 hours. Return to your pet's normal feeding routine the following day.

3. Restrict your animal's activity for 10-14 days after surgery. Do not allow running or jumping. Cats must stay strictly indoors for 10-14 days. Your dog should also stay indoors to allow for optimal recovery from surgery, and should only be taken for short walks on a leash.

4. Check the incision at least twice a day until healed. A small amount of blood seepage is normal right after surgery. If you notice any continued drainage or swelling, call us immediately at the emergency number below.

5. Should the incision become dirty, gently dab the area with a cotton ball and hydrogen peroxide.

6. Do not allow your dog or cat to get wet for at least 14 days after surgery. As such, bathing is prohibited.

7. If the surgery required the use of sutures, the sutures are dissolvable and should not need removal. For cats: use shredded newspaper instead of kitty litter in the litter box for 7 days after surgery to prevent dust particles from irritating the incisions.

8. Unless prescribed by your veterinarian, **DO NOT GIVE ANY OTHER MEDICATION** to your cat or dog, aside from what we may send home today. Tylenol and aspirin can both be deadly to your pet.

9. If your pet was sent home with a cone (a.k.a. "E-collar") around the head, do not remove it for 10-14 days.

10. For all non-emergency questions about your pet's health, or for emergencies **NOT** related to the surgery we performed today, contact your private veterinarian or nearest emergency veterinary hospital. To schedule an appointment with our clinic, you may leave a message at 1-888-364-7729.

FOR EMERGENCIES related to today's surgery only, you may contact us using the phone number that was given to you on the day of your pet's surgery.

Your pick-up time is _____ am / pm **today**. We do not offer a grace period. If you are not here at this time for pick-up, your pet/s will be taken to the appropriate L.A. Animal Services animal shelter. Should this happen, you will be entirely responsible for all relevant costs.

~ ANIMAL CARE CENTER INFORMATION ~

(888) 452-7381 (L.A. Animal Services)	North Central	South Los Angeles	East Valley	
	Fee to release dogs: \$102	3201 Lacy Street	3612 11th Avenue	14409 Vanowen Street
	Fee to release cats: \$76	Los Angeles, CA 90031	Los Angeles, CA 90018	Van Nuys, CA 91405