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DOG SURGERY DISCHARGE INSTRUCTIONS

Your pet has undergone surgery and is now being discharged for continued care at home. Your job during the recovery period at home is just as important as the surgical procedure just performed.

Home care after surgery mainly involves the restriction of physical activity. Unfortunately, your pet does not understand the seriousness of surgery or the significance of the recovery period. Most pets will naturally become very active in a short period of time after surgery and confinement and close supervision indoors is of the utmost importance! This means:

No jumping or running, No stair climbing, No playing with other pets, No "rough-housing"

When your pet goes outside to go to the bathroom, it must be on a short leash or supervised and returned indoors immediately. If your pet must be left alone, it must be confined to a cage or other small area that is warm and safe. This strict confinement and restriction of activity is necessary during the entire recuperative period. Excessive physical activity often leads to injury or serious complications. This means additional expense to you and added discomfort and risk for your pet. Do not bathe your pet or allow the incision to get wet. This also means that you cannot allow your pet to lick the incision at all.

Monitor the incision daily for signs of redness, swelling, discharge or excessive licking. Mild redness and swelling are part of the healing process and should be expected for the first few days after surgery. After the first 2-3 days, the swelling and redness should subside and the incision should look better each day. Moderate swelling on or around the incision site is abnormal, and may be an early sign of infection.

NEVER PUT ANYTHING ON THE INCISION UNLESS YOU ARE SPECIFICALLY TOLD TO DO SO BY YOUR VETERINARIAN. Never put hydrogen peroxide or rubbing alcohol on the incision. These chemicals are toxic to healing tissues, and will cause inflammation and delay the surgical healing.

We have various sizes of protective collars or "E-collars" to prevent your pet from licking the incision site. Licking often leads to chewing or removal of sutures, which can happen in a few seconds. Mild licking can result in an infection that requires antibiotic treatment. However, persistent licking can cause serious injury to the incision and may require a costly surgery to repair the damage. If your pet got external skin sutures then it should be removed after 10 days or ask your veterinarian. If pet exhibit any lethargy dullness or vomit persistent please call us or alternatively bring for recheck