

## Post-Surgical Discharge Instructions: Laceration Repair

Thank you for trusting us with your pet's care. Proper post-surgical care is essential for a smooth recovery. Please follow the instructions below, and contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

---

### Activity Restrictions

#### Restriction Level: Mild to Moderate

Your pet's activity should be limited for **10 to 14 days** to allow proper healing and prevent complications.

- **No running, jumping, or rough play.**
- **Dogs:** Leash walks only—no off-leash activity.
- **Cats:** Keep strictly indoors.
- **Prevent interaction with other pets** to avoid licking or reopening the wound.
- **Use an Elizabethan collar (e-collar)** to prevent licking or chewing at the sutures.

### Re-Evaluation Appointments

A follow-up visit is recommended in **10 to 14 days** for:

- **Suture or staple removal** (if applicable)
- **Wound assessment**
- Additional follow-ups as needed
- **If a drain was placed, return in 3-5 days for removal.**

Please schedule your pet's recheck appointment before leaving today.

---

### Pain Management

Your pet has been prescribed pain medication. Please follow the given instructions carefully.

- **Administer all medications as directed.**
  - **Do not give human pain medications** (such as Aspirin or Tylenol), as these can be toxic to pets.
  - If your pet shows signs of excessive pain (whining, restlessness, or lack of appetite), contact us.
-

## Anesthesia Recovery

Your pet may be **groggy or disoriented** for the next 12 hours due to anesthesia. During this time:

- Assist your pet when moving, as coordination may be temporarily affected.
- Your pet may **vocalize, pace, or appear disoriented**—this can last up to 6-8 hours.
- **Monitor food and water intake**; offer small amounts at first.
- Keep children and other pets away from your pet for at least 18-24 hours.
- A mild **sore throat or cough** may occur due to the anesthesia tube but should resolve within 24 hours.

If abnormal behavior persists beyond 24 hours, contact us immediately.

---

## Wound & Incision Care

- **Check the wound site daily** for redness, swelling, or discharge.
  - A **small amount of redness and swelling** is normal, but increased inflammation or drainage should be reported.
  - **Do not allow licking or biting of the wound**—use an e-collar if needed.
  - **No baths or swimming** until the wound is fully healed (at least 10-14 days).
  - **Do not clean the wound with hydrogen peroxide**—use warm, soapy water if necessary.
  - If a bandage was applied, **keep it clean and dry**. If it becomes wet, dirty, or starts slipping, contact us immediately.
- 

## When to Contact Your Veterinarian

Please call or text us if your pet experiences any of the following:

- **Vomiting or diarrhea**
- **Loss of appetite** for more than 24 hours
- **Pale gums**
- **Discharge, swelling, or bleeding from the wound**
- **Signs of infection (foul odor, excessive redness, pus)**
- **Difficulty urinating**
- **Labored breathing**
- **Lethargy lasting more than 24 hours**
- **Signs of severe pain (crying, restlessness, reluctance to move)**

If you notice any of these signs, contact us immediately at **606-392-2030**.

We appreciate your commitment to your pet's recovery and are here to help every step of the way!