Boulevard Animal Hospital

Post-Operative Care Instructions for Your Cat

Dear Pet Owner,

Thank you for entrusting Boulevard Animal Hospital with your cat's surgery. To ensure a smooth recovery and the best possible outcome, please follow these post-operative care instructions carefully. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact us at [Insert Clinic Phone Number] or visit us at Boulevard Animal Hospital.

1. General Care

- Rest and Recovery: Your cat should have a quiet, calm environment to rest in after surgery. Limit their activity during the first few days to help facilitate healing. Avoid allowing your cat to jump, climb, or run, as this could interfere with the healing process.

- Confinement: It's important to keep your cat confined to a small, quiet area of your home (such as a crate or a room) to prevent overexertion. This will help them recover more quickly and avoid injury to the surgical site.

- Supervision: Watch your cat closely to make sure they are not licking, chewing, or scratching the surgical site. If necessary, an Elizabethan collar (E-collar) may be needed to prevent this behavior.

2. Incision Care

- Incision Site: Check the incision area daily for signs of infection, such as redness, swelling, discharge, or an unusual odor. A small amount of clear or blood-tinged fluid is normal in the first 24-48 hours.

- Keep it Dry: Do not bathe your cat or allow them to get their incision site wet. Avoid allowing your cat to swim until they have fully healed and your veterinarian gives you the go-ahead, usually after any stitches or staples are removed.

- Licking and Scratching: If your cat is licking or scratching at the incision, you may need to use an E-collar (cone) to prevent them from irritating the wound.

3. Medications

- Pain Relief: Administer any prescribed pain medications exactly as directed. Keeping your cat comfortable during recovery is important for their healing process.

- Antibiotics: If antibiotics have been prescribed, be sure to complete the full course, even if your cat seems to be feeling better. This helps prevent infections from developing.

- Avoid Human Medications: Never give your cat human medications, as they can be toxic to cats.

4. Feeding and Hydration

- Diet: Your cat may have a reduced appetite for the first day or two after surgery. You can try offering a small amount of their usual food or a bland diet such as boiled chicken or special prescription food. Gradually return to their regular diet once they are eating again.

- Hydration: Always make sure your cat has access to fresh water. If your cat is reluctant to drink, try offering ice cubes or small amounts of water with a syringe or spoon to encourage hydration.

5. Activity Restrictions

- Leash Walks or Contained Play: Cats generally do not go on walks like dogs, but you should still restrict their movement. Keep them indoors in a small, quiet space where they can rest, and prevent them from jumping, climbing, or engaging in any rough play.

- No Strenuous Activity: Avoid activities that could put strain on your cat’s incision site, such as climbing, jumping, or rough play. Keep your cat’s physical activity to a minimum for the first 10-14 days.

6. Follow-Up Appointments

- Suture/Staple Removal: If your cat had sutures or staples, a follow-up appointment will be required for removal. This typically occurs 10-14 days after surgery.

- Post-Op Checkup: If your veterinarian has scheduled a follow-up appointment to monitor your cat’s recovery, please be sure to keep the appointment.

7. When to Contact Us

Please contact us immediately if your cat shows any of the following signs:

- Severe or increasing pain (yowling, trembling, or reluctance to move)

- Excessive swelling, redness, or discharge from the incision site

- Vomiting, diarrhea, or refusal to eat or drink for more than 24 hours

- Lethargy or inability to stand or walk

- Difficulty breathing or unusual coughing

Contact Information

If you have any questions or concerns during your cat's recovery, please don’t hesitate to -

Contact us

Phone: (562)-633-6514

Address: 2139 E. Artesia Blvd Long Beach, 90805

Website: bahlb.com

Telemedicine - Need to contact us after clinic hours? Our doctors may be available for immediate consults on Hubavet. Download Hubavet on the App Store or Google Play to chat with a doctor immediately.

Thank you for trusting us with your pet’s care. We look forward to seeing your cat back to their healthy, happy self soon!

Sincerely,

Boulevard Animal Hospital Team