



Post Operative Care for your Dog after Neutering

Neutering is the act of removing the animals reproductive organs.

Most dogs anaesthetised for routine neutering procedures go home the same day.

Your pet should be able to walk although may be a little drowsy. When you get home keep them warm, ideally in a small area of your house where they usually feel most relaxed.

We always place an intravenous catheter in their front leg; we use this to administer medications before and during their procedure. This has now been removed and a dressing has been placed around their leg. Please remove this after about half an hour (the bandage sticks to itself so will unwrap easily, there will be a small pad of cotton wool under the coloured bandage).

Offer a small, light meal (chicken or fish with some rice or pasta). Occasionally they will vomit after an anaesthetic so do not be concerned if they do. Do not worry if they do not want to eat. Ensure that water is near to their bed and leave them to rest.

You should keep them in for 24 hours apart from brief toilet visits into the garden.

For the next 10 days your dog should have gentle lead exercise only. Try to avoid energetic behaviour e.g. jumping on chairs, any kind of running around.

It is important to check the site of the operation daily for any redness, bleeding, swelling or discharge as well as behaviour changes. If your dog is worrying the wound e.g. licking or pulling the sutures, we can supply a collar or recovery suit to prevent this.

Most dogs now have internal dissolvable sutures which do not need removing.

Your dog will have been given pain relief medication by injection during their operation. To keep them comfortable over the next few days, the vet has prescribed further medication which will start tomorrow, please follow the instructions carefully.

We do offer a post operative check at 3-4 days if necessary.

Animals that have been neutered are prone to weight gain. This generally happens over the 2-3 months after neutering as the reproductive hormone levels reduce. To help to minimise any unwanted weight gain it is recommended to reduce your dogs food slightly or to change to a 'light' diet (these are designed for pets prone to weight gain.) Please monitor your dogs weight carefully; we invite you to bring them in for free weight checks, our nurses are always happy to give advice if you have any concerns.

If you have any questions about your dog's treatment, please feel free to ask any member of staff.

If we ask you to send a photo, please email it to leekvets2@hotmail.co.uk