



# Post Operative Care

Today your pet has either had a general anaesthetic or a sedation, they may be drowsy when you get home. This is normal. It is important that they are kept indoors for 24hrs to recover. They should be back to normal within 24-48 hours, but will need to be kept quiet and warm this evening. Water should be available at all times.

A small area of hair may have been clipped from one or more of their legs and /or neck, don't worry this will soon grow back. This is to allow for the administration of the anaesthetic, or for the collection of blood samples.

Anaesthesia usually involves placing a breathing tube in the windpipe and occasionally this may cause a little irritation afterwards. You may also notice slight coughing, but this should not persist for more than a day or so.

Please keep an eye on wounds or dressings. If you notice any problems such as swelling, discharge or redness of the wound, or the dressing has slipped or appears to be uncomfortable please contact the surgery for further advice.

Dressings should be kept clean and dry at all times. It is important that your pet does not interfere with any wounds or dressings. Excessive licking can slow down wound healing and introduce infection. If necessary contact the surgery and we will provide you with a special collar or suit to prevent this.

### **Medication**

If medication has been dispensed it should be given as directed.  
The instructions will be written on a label.

### **Feeding**

Later this evening they may want food and water.  
A small easily digestible meal (e.g. chicken, white fish) should be offered.

### **Aftercare**

Please make an appointment for re-examination if we have requested a check up. We will advise when this needs to be.

Exercise should be restricted and always on the lead until re-examination, unless instructed otherwise.

Sutures may need to be removed 10 days after the operation unless we have used dissolvable sutures. We will advise you which ones your pet has.

If you have any concerns or queries please do not hesitate to contact the surgery 01538 373666

If we ask you to send a photo, please email it to [leekvets2@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:leekvets2@hotmail.co.uk)