

# After Surgery Instructions

It is important to keep your pet comfortable and healthy during the recovery period following a spay or neuter surgery.

**A note about medication: A long-lasting injection of pain medication is given at the time of surgery. Additional pain medications are generally not necessary. If your pet experiences discomfort during the days following surgery, please call the clinic at (312) 644-8338 (ext. 350 or 351).**

## Post-Surgical Instructions:

- No food is allowed until the morning after the surgery.
- Provide a normal serving of water when you arrive home.
- Resume normal eating schedule the following day.
- Mild exercise, such as walking, is allowed, but do not allow your pet to jump or run, as this may cause the incision to open.
- Do not allow your pet to chew or lick the incision. If you notice excessive licking, you can purchase a cone collar at your local pet supply store or veterinarian.

Check the incision daily. Contact the clinic if you notice any discharge, swelling, or opening at the incision site.

- Do not bathe your pet or apply any flea products for 10 days.
- Know that your pet did not receive any external sutures, so removal is not necessary. There are two layers of internal sutures, which will dissolve, and surgical glue has been applied on your pet's skin.
- A green tattoo has been placed near the incision to make it easy to identify that your pet is altered.
- If needed, post-surgical care will be provided at no charge until the incision heals.

**Please call the Clinic at (312) 644-8338 (ext. 350 or 351) to schedule an appointment.**

- *Phone hours Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.*
- *From 4 p.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday, call the number listed above with the ext. 0 to speak to an operator*
- *The clinic is closed weekends, and holidays: call the number above, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. with the ext. 0 to speak to an operator*

## Vaccinations Given at the Time of Surgery

Your cat or dog may have received its first distemper combination vaccine during the surgery. This is the first in a series of at least **two** vaccinations meant to provide protection against

common diseases. In order for this vaccine to be effective, a booster needs to be scheduled in approximately 3 weeks. **You must schedule an appointment with your own veterinarian for this important booster vaccine.**

If your pet received a rabies vaccination, he or she is protected for one year and will not need a booster until then. A current rabies vaccination is required by law for all cats and dogs. **You must schedule a booster rabies vaccination with your own veterinarian in approximately one year.**

If your pet received a Canine Influenza vaccine, this is the first in a series of two vaccinations meant to provide temporary protection. In order for this vaccine to be fully effective for one year, a booster needs to be scheduled in approximately 3 weeks and may be obtained at our clinic for a \$25 fee. No appointment is necessary. The hours of operation are Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.