



TIMBERLEA  
VETERINARY CLINIC  
3100 Rue Jean Yves  
Kirkland, QC  
H9R 2R6  
514-505-6555

### POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

Your dog has had general anesthesia and surgery today. Please read and adhere to the following instructions to help speed the healing and recovery process.

#### FEEDING:

- \*You may feed a 1/2 portion of food after 6pm this evening
- \*Please give small amounts of water (1/2 cup for small dogs, 1 cup for large dogs) at a time for the first 12 hours post-operatively
- \*Food and water may be refused by your dog in the first 24hrs, this may be normal and is no cause for alarm unless eating and drinking does not resume after 24hrs.
- \*Some dogs may eat with great appetite or drink too much water and may then vomit in the first 12 hours post-operatively
- \*Some dogs may also have soft stools up to 24hrs post-operatively. Stools should return to normal in 24-48hrs

#### PLEASE CONTACT US IF:

- \*Appetite does not return within 24hrs
- \*There is liquid and/or bloody stools
- \*Repeated episodes of vomiting

#### MONITORING THE SURGICAL INCISION:

- \*Check the incision twice daily
- \*Some swelling and/or redness is normal in the first 24-48hrs post-operatively
- \*A small amount of bleeding may also be normal in the first 24-48hrs post-operatively
- \*Do not give a bath for at least 2 weeks
- \*You may clean around the wound with a damp cloth if there is a little blood, but do not apply creams, or bandage the incision unless instructed to do so

#### PLEASE CONTACT US IF:

- \*There is excessive bleeding, or signs of infection (these include increased swelling, pain, redness, yellow/green discharge)
- \*If stitches are removed within 10 days

NOTE: If the surgical wound opens up less than 5 days after surgery, please cover the wound and call us. It is RARELY an emergency but the wound will probably need to be re-closed and antibiotics may be necessary. If the wound opens up more than 5 days after surgery, we may not wish to re-close the incision, but antibiotics may still be necessary, call us as soon as possible.

#### EXERCISE:

- \*Limit exercise for 1 week post-operatively. Dogs should be taken out ON LEASH, for elimination purposes only for the first 48 hours, and then can take short leash walks for an additional 5 days
- \*Do not allow off-leash play, encourage running or jumping, or play vigorously. This may slow healing, and may lead to complications such as fluid developing in the surgical region.

OTHER INSTRUCTIONS/INFORMATION:

\*Male dogs should wear their e-collar for 1 week, female dogs need an e-collar if they are licking the incision

\*Administer Pain medication(s) as prescribed

\*Your dog will have either: visible sutures that are dissolvable, dissolvable sutures that are under the skin, or will have had the surgical wound closed with surgical glue. You may return for an appointment in 10-14 days to have visible sutures removed at no charge by the technician.

NOTE: it may take 2-3 months for dissolvable sutures to disappear on their own.

PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL US IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS AND/OR CONCERNS

I have read and understood these post-operative instructions: