

Growth/Tumor Removal Discharge Instructions

Your pet has been through a surgical procedure and will need special attention for a full uneventful recovery. Please read and review the following instructions. If you have any questions at any time, please call.

Activity: Avoid free running (should be on leash) or jumping, swimming or bathing for 7 days after the surgery or until sutures are removed. If discharged on the same day as surgery, guard your pet against tripping on stairs or getting in or out of your vehicle because full control may not return for 24 hours after sedation and anesthesia. **NOTE:** Do not permit young children to inspect the surgical site for several days after the surgery just in case the patient needs to guard the surgical site. We need the dog or cat to have eliminated the sedation and anesthetic and to have reasonable comfort at the surgical site before young children interact with the patient.

Diet: You can resume your pet's normal diet at home. The evening of the procedure you should divide the normal meal into a couple smaller feedings to avoid stomach upset. If your pet hasn't eaten or drank anything for 24 hours after getting home, please report this to us.

Medications: Administer prescribed medications the day of discharge unless otherwise directed. Directions for medications are printed on each bottle. Please observe recommendations for giving with food if stated. You should have been informed when to start medication, if any prescribed.

Incision Care: Please check the incision daily for 7 days or until sutures are removed. Some redness and a little bruising are normal consequences of surgery and healing. If the incision becomes painful, opens, or discharges pus or blood, please call the clinic for a re-check. **DO NOT** allow your pet to lick, chew, rub or pull at the incision. If this does occur, you should stop the behavior right away and begin using an E-collar or improvise a T-shirt, ace bandage or other bandage to cover the incision to protect it from chewing or licking. If you do not have an E-collar at home, please pick one up from the clinic at your earliest opportunity.

For some surgeries there are no skin sutures to remove. If sutures are present we ask you to make an appointment for 10 to 13 days post op for us to remove them.

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to call us at 715-358-4300.