

# DOG POST OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

## Exercise

- Keep animal confined in area, crate or small room for the first 24 hours after surgery. Your pet may be sedated for the next 12-24 hours after anesthesia.
- Restrict your pet's activity for the next 10-14 days. (No running, jumping or rough play. Leash walk to go to the bathroom)
- Keep the incision site dry; do not bathe, allow swimming or apply topical ointment during the recovery period.

## Feeding

- At dinner time offer your pet half of their normal meal, you may resume normal feeding the morning after their procedure. Appetite should return gradually within 24 hours of surgery. Do not change the pet's diet at this time. Feeding them their regular diet will help avoid gastro-intestinal upset. If vomiting occurs, please contact your veterinarian.

## Vaccine

- If your pet received a vaccine at our clinic other than rabies, please discuss a "booster" vaccine with your regular veterinarian (see medical notes).

## Medication

- Your pet has received medication to control pain during the first 24 hours after surgery. Please give additional pain medication as directed. Never give OTC pain medication to your pet.

## Incision Care

- Your pet received a green tattoo on or near the incision. This is to show the pet has been spayed or neutered and prevent any future unnecessary surgery.
- **Please discourage licking or chewing at surgery site.** This could lead to infections or other complications.  
**Please keep their E-COLLAR ON FOR THE NEXT 10-14 DAYS!**
- Please check incision twice daily for any excessive swelling, redness, or discharge. In female dogs the incision is on the abdomen. In male dogs the incision is by the penis or on the scrotum (see medical notes).
- There are no sutures to be removed unless otherwise specified.

## Monitor

- Minimal redness & swelling of the surgery site should resolve within several days.

## Please Watch for the Following:

- |                          |                                      |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| • Loss of appetite       | • Lethargy                           |
| • Drainage from incision | • Excessive bruising around incision |
| • Excessive swelling     | • Vomiting                           |
| • Changes to breathing   | • Diarrhea                           |

We will make every reasonable effort to treat at OUR CLINIC, at minimal cost, any post-operative complications resulting directly from the surgery, if the above post-operative instructions are followed in full. Your regular veterinarian must address illnesses or injuries that are not a direct result of surgery. If you have any immediate concerns or questions regarding your pet's spay and neuter surgery please call (410)-889-7729 or email [spay@mdspca.org](mailto:spay@mdspca.org) during our normal business hours (Monday through Friday 8am to 4 pm). After office hours, please call contact your veterinarian or the nearest veterinary emergency facility such as PET+ER (410) 252-8387