

Rogue Valley Humane Society

Rvhclinic@roguevalleyhumanesociety.org Clinic Phone 541-916-8399

Home Care for Surgery Patients

(If given instructions at checkout, make sure to follow those directions as they may differ from these)

Surgery Performed: Spay or Neuter

Most healing occurs at home; therefore, the care you provide is vital to your pet's recovery. Our staff will assist you in any way possible to ensure success in your efforts.

1. Medications:

Felines:

- Females receive Buprenorphine E/R injectable pain medication that will last up to 72 hours.
- Males receive injectable pain management that will last 24 hours.

Canine:

- Males / Females - were given injectable pain medication that will last up to 24 hours. Additionally, they are dispensed meloxicam for you to give starting the day after surgery. Follow the instructions on the prescription label.

2. Diet and water:

- **For adults:** offer a small meal tonight and then resume normal feedings the following day. Use caution if feeding a feral cat that is housed in a trap.
- **For puppies/kittens or dogs under 6 lbs:** offer normal amounts of food divided into two meals to avoid hypoglycemia. The day after surgery, resume the pet's normal feeding routine.
- Always have water available after surgery provided your pet is fully awake.
- Avoid changing diet during this time as it may cause gastric upset.

3. Care of surgical site:

- Inspect your pet's surgical site daily for signs of a problem.
- Minimal redness, swelling and bruising should resolve within a few days.
- Discourage your pet from licking at the surgical site.
- If your pet is licking or is left unattended, we recommend the use of an e-collar.
- The suture material used is absorbable, suture removal is not required.

4. Tattoo / Ear tip:

- A small green abdominal incision line is often placed to signify that an animal is altered. Be cautious, as the ink may rub off on surfaces during the first 24 hours.
- Ear tipping is done on feral / community cats to signify that they have been altered.

5. Activity:

- Restrict activity for 10 - 14 days. No running, jumping, stairs, bathing or swimming.
- Females should avoid contact with intact males during this time to prevent injury.
- Males can have viable sperm for up to 30 days post neuter.
- Feral cats should stay in a warm dry place overnight unless otherwise instructed by Dr. If alert and acting normally the day after surgery, they may be released.

Notify us or your veterinarian immediately if any of the following occur:

- Pale gums, depression, unsteady gait, loss of appetite, decreased water intake, excessive diarrhea, difficulty urinating or defecating, labored breathing or vomiting.
- Your pet licks excessively at the surgical site.
- The incision has increasing redness, swelling, bleeding or discharge.
- Sutures come out or the incision opens up.
- You cannot give the prescribed medication as directed

Contact us during business hours Monday – Wednesday 7am – 3pm at (541) 916 - 8399

or contact your regular veterinarian

After hours contact Southern Oregon Veterinary Specialty Center at (541) 282 – 7711