

BCSPCA SPAY NEUTER CLINIC
INSTRUCTIONS
1909 QUEENSWAY
PRINCE GEORGE, BC • V2L 1M1
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SURGICAL AFTERCARE

Your dog or cat has undergone general anesthesia and surgical sterilization. For the safety and well-being of your pet, we commend that the following post-operative instructions be carefully read and followed to avoid complications during recovery.

•Anesthetic effects can linger for a few hours and may cause mild disorientation, sleepiness, and/or nausea. To prevent injury, keep your pet away from stairs or other dangers until he or she is fully awake. You may offer a small amount of water immediately, and then a small meal 2 hours later – we recommend only offering about ½ of your pets’ regular amount to prevent gorging, and we do not recommend any new or rich food or treats as these may cause digestive upset. Do not be surprised if your pet isn’t interested in food the first night, but **please call us if your pet is unwilling to eat or drink by the following morning.**

•Your pet must be kept indoors with their activity restricted for at least **10-14 days** to allow proper healing. Dogs may go outside on a leash (no free running) for short periods only to pee & poop. Avoid long walks, running, jumping, playing and swimming as much as possible – **we understand that this can be very difficult, but it is extremely important** – you may need to use a crate (dogs) or small room (cats) to confine your pet if necessary to keep them quiet. Even if the incision(s) look healed on the outside, **full internal healing can take 2 weeks or more!**

•**Your pet is not allowed to lick their incision(s).** To prevent this, we recommend the purchase of an e-collar (cone) which we will size to your pet to ensure a proper fit. You can use either a flat collar or roll gauze to keep the e-collar on your pet. The fit should be snug but not tight – you should be able to fit 2 fingers between the gauze and your pets’ neck. The e-collar should be worn if your pet is unsupervised or you notice any licking – in general most pets only need to keep it on for the first **5-7 days**, but please use it until you are sure they are no longer licking.

•Check your pets’ incision(s) at least once a day. All sutures are internal and dissolvable, and do not require removal. In male cats the incision(s) are left open to heal naturally. A small amount of seepage or minor bruising can be normal immediately after surgery, but **if you notice any swelling, redness, major bruising, or continued drainage, please call us.**

•Your pet received multiple medications today as part of the anesthetic and surgery, which can interact with other drugs. **DO NOT GIVE ANY OTHER MEDICATIONS AT HOME WITHOUT CHECKING WITH US FIRST!** (including but not limited to Tylenol, Aspirin, vitamins, supplements, over the counter products, and homeopathic/natural remedies.)

•During business hours, if you have any questions about your pet after surgery or need non-urgent follow up care, please call our main line; we would be happy to help. **The Spay Neuter Clinic does not offer after-hours emergency services** - these services are provided for our patients cooperatively by PG Vet Hospital, Ospika Animal Hospital, College Heights Vet Clinic, Hart Family Vet Clinic and Murdoch Vet Clinic. If you have an emergency after-hours, please call **250-649-8373**. Please note that if an emergency visit is required, there will be an emergency call in fee of \$175/\$200 (before/after 10pm) plus further costs associated with an emergency visit – exam fees/treatments/medications – based on standard fees at each facility.