

WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER AN ENUCLEATION

Your pet has just undergone anesthesia and had an enucleation, it is your responsibility to understand these instructions to ensure your pet's recovery is successful.

After anesthesia some animals cannot regulate their body temperatures, so keep your pet inside for at least 24 hours. Take your dog out on a leash to use the bathroom. Please keep your pet calm for the next 7 days. Give the prescribed pain medication and/or antibiotics as directed.

It is **EXTREMELY** important that you **DO NOT REMOVE THE E-COLLAR. DO NOT** replace the e-collar with an inflatable e-collar. The e-collar needs to reach the end of your dog's/cat's muzzle so that they cannot rub the surgery site on anything. If your pet has trouble reaching their food and water dishes, you can elevate the bowls with an old phone book or something of the sort. You may need to hand feed your pet for a few days to get them used to wearing the e-collar. **DO NOT** remove the e-collar even for feedings. Allowing your pet to irritate the area will cause damage to healing tissue and will require further medical attention at your expense.

Bruising around the eye socket is extremely common after this surgery. Cold compresses can help with bruising. Swelling of the socket is also common after this procedure, there may be some discharge and bleeding from the incision site. This is normal. You can apply warm compresses to relieve pressure from the site. Swelling and bruising will typically subside. **DO NOT** allow your pet to swim or be bathed for 14 days. If you see external sutures, they will need to be removed in 10-14 days. If you do not see any external sutures, then all the internal sutures will dissolve. Absorbable sutures can take months to completely dissolve.

Offer a small amount of food and water when you get your pet home. Any favorite foods or treats can be offered. If your pet has no problem keeping food down, continue to offer small amounts every few hours. Resume normal feeding with their regular food the next day. Anesthesia can cause stomach upset so getting your pet to eat as soon as possible can help prevent this.

Give medications as directed. Some medications can cause stomach upset such as vomiting or diarrhea. Please contact a veterinarian if this occurs. It may be recommended that medications are discontinued. Written prescriptions are available upon request.

If any of the following conditions occurs, please contact your private veterinarian or local emergency animal clinic immediately:

- Loss of appetite for more than two days.
- Refusal to drink water for more than 24 hours.
- Vomiting for more than 24 hours.
- Diarrhea for more than 24 hours.
- If the incision is open.

Please note, Dr. Kelly's Surgical Unit is not responsible for any costs associated with post-op veterinary care. Dr. Kelly's Surgical Unit will not reimburse you for any post-op veterinary care resulting from not following these instructions. Please call Dr. Kelly's Surgical Unit if you have concerns. We will try to return your call in a timely manner, but we do not offer 24-hour emergency veterinary services. If you need emergency care, please consult your private Vet or seek care at an Emergency Animal Hospital. Here is a list of hospitals that may be able to give you assistance:

Tucson Emergency Hospitals:

- VCA Valley @ 4984 E 22nd St, Tucson, AZ 85711, (520) 748-0331
- Southern Arizona Veterinary Central @ 141 E Fort Lowell Rd, Tucson, AZ 85705, (520) 888-3177
- Southern Arizona Veterinary East @ 7474 E. Broadway Blvd. Tucson, AZ 85710, (520) 888-3177
- Pima Pet Clinic @ 4832 E Speedway Blvd, Tucson, AZ 85712, (520) 327-5624
- VSCOT @ 4909 N La Cañada Dr, Tucson, AZ 85704, (520) 795-9955