

WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER A MASS REMOVAL

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. It is your responsibility to understand these instructions to ensure your pet recovery is successful. If you have any questions at any time, please call.

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 7-14 days. Give the prescribed pain medication and/or antibiotics as directed.

Activity: Avoid free running (should be on leash) or jumping, swimming or bathing for 7 to 14 days after the surgery or until sutures are removed, if necessary. If bandage is present patient should avoid getting bandage wet until removal. If you have any questions regarding the bandage, please contact a veterinarian and **DO NOT** change without consultation.

Diet: 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. If your pet hasn't eaten or drank anything for 48 hours after getting home, please report this to us.

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.

Medications: You should be informed when to start medication, if any prescribed. Directions for medications are printed on each bottle. Please observe recommendations for giving with food if stated. Occasionally medications can cause upset stomach such as vomiting and diarrhea. If your pet is experiencing these symptoms please contact us, we may recommend discontinuing medication. A written prescription can be requested.

Incision Care: Please check the incision daily until healed or until sutures are removed. There may be a small amount of discharge and bleeding from the incision site. This is normal. It will subside within 48-72 hours after surgery. 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. Allowing your pet to irritate the area will cause damage to healing tissue and will require further medical attention at your expense.

If you were provided an E-collar it must remain on at all times for 10-14 days to protect the incision area from damage and infections. The healing process can be itchy and your pet may do harm if given access while the area heals. If you were not provided an E-collar but your pet is reaching the incision please purchase one from a pet store or contact us to purchase one.

If the surgery required a drain to be put in please follow the doctors instructions for care and call for a re-check appointment as directed. For some surgeries there are no skin sutures to remove. If external sutures/staples are present we ask you to make an appointment for 10 to 14 days post op for us to remove them.

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

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

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