



## **POST OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR YOUR CAT**

**FEMALE CATS:** Keep inside and quiet for the next 7-10 days. They can smell like they are in heat for up to 14 days. Keep unaltered males away.

**MALE CATS:** Keep inside and quiet for 7-10 days. They can still be potent for up to 14 days after surgery. Keep unaltered females away.

### **THE NIGHT AFTER SURGERY:**

- Keep your cat in a quiet, confined area like a bedroom or bathroom.
- Set up food, water and litter; place cat in room still in carrier and allow them to come out on their own.
- Your cat may still be under the effects of anesthesia and may bite or scratch – keep children and other pets away.
- Your cat has been given an injection for pain that will last for the next 24 hours. **DO NOT** give any human medications. Additional pain medication is given upon request at an additional fee.

### **THINGS TO WATCH FOR AFTER SURGERY:**

- Your cat may be uncoordinated and weak for the next 24 hours.
- It may feel some nausea and not want to eat; this is normal.
- Some redness and swelling may occur; this is normal.

### **OBSERVE YOUR PET FOR:**

- Loss of appetite longer than 2 days, or refusal to drink water for 1 day.
- Severe depression, weakness or vomiting for the first 24 hours.
- Diarrhea, severe pain or incision drainage.

### **WOUND CARE:**

- Your female has **NO EXTERNAL** sutures. Male require no sutures at all.
- If there is any discharge or foul odor from the incision or if the incision is open, get medical attention as soon as possible (See Below).
- Do not bathe your cat for the next 7 days, as this may cause infection at the surgery site. A sponge bathe is allowed, avoiding incision site.

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If you have concerns about your pet's condition or incision, call Animal League Wellness Center. We will do a recheck at no charge for surgery-related problems only. If an e-collar was declined at time of pick up and the animal comes back for a re-check due to licking or scratching of the incision, you will be responsible for any costs incurred for a recheck. If you elect to go elsewhere for a recheck, we are not responsible for any costs you may incur. For life threatening emergencies during non-business hours, call the Leesburg Veterinary Emergency Clinic at (352) 728-4440 or consult your nearest emergency location.