



## **POST OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR YOUR DOG**

### **ALL DOGS:**

- The night after surgery only give small amounts of food and water at one time.
- Keep confined indoors for at least 2 days, keeping small children and other pets away.
- No running jumping for 7-10 days.
- Leash walk outdoors **ONLY!** **DO NOT** allow your dog to roam free unattended for 7-10 days.

**FEMALE DOGS:** Can smell like she is in heat for 14 days, so keep unaltered males away.

**MALE DOGS:** Can still be potent for up to 14 days, so keep him away from unaltered females.

Your dog has been given an injection of Meloxicam - this will provide pain relief for at least 24 hours. **DO NOT** give any human pain medication to your pet. Additional pain medication is given on request at an additional fee (determined by weight of pet).

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

- Your dog may be uncoordinated from anesthesia for 24 hours
- They may feel some nausea and may not want to eat; this is normal.
- Some redness and swelling may occur; this is normal.
- Endotracheal tubes are used during surgery; this may result in a slight cough due to irritation of the throat. If a cough lasts longer than 3 days, please contact Animal League Wellness Center.

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

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

### **WOUND CARE:**

- Your dog has **NO EXTERNAL** sutures, unless instructed otherwise.
- If there is and drainage or foul odor, excessive bleeding from surgery site, or if the incision opens, get medical attention as soon as possible (See Below).
- **DO NOT** bathe your dog for 2 weeks, as this may cause infection and the incision may open. A sponge bath avoiding the incision is allowed.

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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.