

# Post-Operative Instructions

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## **Congratulations on spaying or neutering your pet!**

Your pet is counting on you to have a successful recovery from surgery. The success of our patient's surgery depends not only on the skill of our surgical team, but on the quality of post-operative care that you provide.

### **Please read the following instructions carefully:**

- 1) Your pet may be feeling nauseous from the anesthesia. To keep your pet from vomiting, *don't feed your pet until he or she is fully awake and walking steadily* (usually after about 7:00 pm). Then you can offer 1/3 of your pet's normal meal and small amounts of water.
- 2) Your pet may be sore, *but do not allow him or her to lick the incision or surrounding area*. An e-collar may be helpful to keep the pet from licking him or herself. A small amount of bleeding is common the night after surgery, as is slight swelling of the surgical area. However, severe bleeding or swelling may signal a problem.
- 3) There is no suture removal required, since we use dissolvable sutures. However, to prevent the sutures from dissolving before the incision is healed, *do not bathe your pet* for the next 10-12 days.
- 4) To ensure proper healing, *limit your pet's activity* for at least 7 days, and ideally 10-12 days.

### **If you have any problems:**

Please call the Humane Society of Pinellas' Pet Clinic at (727) 791-6782 if your pet has any problems such as not eating, severe swelling, redness, excessive drainage, etc. Please remember, our medical department is closed evenings and all day Sundays and Mondays. When we are closed, or if you have not received a return phone call in a reasonable amount of time, please contact your vet or an emergency hospital. These are just examples of two in Pinellas:

AA Animal ER Center

34601 US Highway 19 N, Palm Harbor 34684 (727) 787-5402 [AAAnimalERCenter.com](http://AAAnimalERCenter.com)

BluePearl Veterinary Partners

4525 Ulmerton Rd, Clearwater 33762 (727) 572-0132 [BluePearl.com/Florida](http://BluePearl.com/Florida)

### **Humane Society of Pinellas**

3040 State Road 590 Clearwater, Florida 33759 (727) 797-7722 [HumaneSocietyofPinellas.org](http://HumaneSocietyofPinellas.org)