



29 Mortimer Drive Evington, Virginia 24550  
434-821-4922

## **Post Op Instructions**

Your cat or dog has had general anesthesia and major surgery today. Please read the following instructions carefully to help insure a healthy recovery.

**Pets must be confined indoors and kept quiet for 10 days; no running, jumping, rowdy play, swimming or other strenuous activity. No bathing during this period.** Dogs must be walked on a leash. Cats should be kept indoors.

**If your pet was in heat** she must be kept away from males for at least 14 days. Serious bleeding and trauma to the reproductive tract may occur, possibly leading to death, if a male tries to mate.

**Please check the incision site twice daily.** There should not be any drainage. Redness and swelling should be minimal. Do not allow pet to lick or chew at the incision site, if this occurs, an Elizabethan collar or a product called "Bitter Apple" must be used to prevent any licking and/or chewing. As the wound heals, there will be a firm lump under the incision as the absorbable sutures break down.

Appetite should return gradually within 24 hours of surgery. Offer small amounts of their normal food and water. Lethargy lasting for more than 24 hours post-op, diarrhea, or vomiting are abnormal and your pet should be examined by a veterinarian. Dogs may have a slight cough for a few days after surgery.

It is advised that your animal receive a post operative examination with your regular veterinarian 7-10 days after surgery. Please have the incision checked for complete healing and to discuss additional needs, follow-up care and boosters.

If there are any questions or concerns related to surgery, please do not hesitate to contact the clinic at **434-821-4922**. If there is an emergency after hours, please contact the Animal Emergency & Critical Care at 434-846-1504.

If the above post-op instructions are completely followed, South Central Spay/Neuter Clinic will treat at our clinic, at no additional cost, any post-op complications resulting directly from the surgery. Your regular veterinarian must address illnesses or injuries that are not a direct result of surgery. Please call them for as soon as you see cause for concern. We cannot be held responsible for any animals requiring attention after our business hours. We cannot be held responsible for complications resulting from a failure to follow post-op instructions or for contagious diseases that the animal was not previously vaccinated including kennel cough.