

# 4 Pets Clinic

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38391 Chester Road, Avon, OH 44011 (440) 934-5353

## Spay & Neuter Instructions

We employ licensed veterinarians with years of experience, support their work with competent caring staff who love animals and maintain the highest quality of care. **Remember, if you have any questions or concerns, please call us immediately.** Over the years we have learned to do the following to promote a fast and easy recovery.

Your pet is recovering from major surgery and anesthesia. The best thing you can do for your pet is provide a **warm** and **dry** and **calm** and **safe** place to recover. Take your pet home to relax for at least an hour. Your pet may hide, be sociable, be active or just wander around. Within reason this is normal and acceptable. Leash walk your dog.

### Cat Litter

☺ Cats are creatures of habit and many don't like change so don't change the brand of litter you use for 2 weeks.

### Food and Water

☺ Wait one hour after returning home; then offer a tiny portion of food and water. If your pet eats and no vomiting occurs; then after half an hour offer another tiny portion of food and water. About a half hour after this, give your pet a water bowl.

☺ Resume normal feedings on the day after surgery. Appetite should return gradually within 24 hours of surgery. Lethargy lasting for more than 24 hours post-op, diarrhea or vomiting are not normal and you should call us.

☺ Do not change your pet's diet at this time and do not give junk food, table scraps, milk or other people food during the recovery period. This could mask post-surgical complications.

### Pain Medicine

Your pet received narcotic non-steroidal anti-inflammatory pain medicine at the clinic and should not need additional pain medicine. Call the clinic if you want us to dispense additional pain medicine but don't give your pet over-the-counter products such as aspirin which can be fatal to pets.

### Activity and Exercise

The good news is that your pet received excellent pain medicine and shouldn't be in pain. The bad news is that your pet received excellent pain medicine, is not in pain and sees no reason to restrict his or her behavior. **So preventing too much activity is your job.**

☺ No running, jumping or excessive stair climbing for 14 days.

If your males are too active, their scrotum may fill with serum or they could drip blood. Fortunately, most of the time this isn't life threatening but isn't so good for the carpets and upholstery either.

If your females are too active, they could tug on the incision and it will come open about the width of two quarters held side by side. If it happens, call us.

Regular phone **440-934-5353** Emergency Phone **440-522-6559** Email [information@4PetsClinic.com](mailto:information@4PetsClinic.com)

# Spay & Neuter Instructions

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## Incisions and Sutures

- ☺ Examine area daily for swelling, redness and missing sutures.
- ☺ You may find swelling or hardness over the incision. This is a normal reaction to dissolvable sutures and will go away in about 2 weeks.
- ☺ No suture removal is needed. The edge of the very top layer of skin is held in place with surgical glue. This glue will flake off in a few days and in some cases the skin will open about an 1/8<sup>th</sup> of an inch. If this happens, gently clean the incision twice a day with hydrogen peroxide.
- ☺ Keep incision dry; no baths, although sponge baths are acceptable as long as sutures are not soaked.
- ☺ Do not allow your pet to lick or chew at the incision. If this occurs, an Elizabethan collar **MUST** be applied to prevent it. E-collars are available from us or from pet stores.
- ☺ There is no reason to remove the sutures.

## Vaccinations

- ☺ Some pets will be stiff or sore or tired because of the vaccinations. This should go away in 24 hours.
- ☺ Most vaccine manufacturers recommend a series of vaccinations the first year followed by annual revaccinations. We offer a low cost vaccination clinic.

## Complications, emergencies or questions

- ☺ We do thousands of surgeries and virtually everyone recovers without any problem but call us immediately if you have any concerns.
- ☺ If you have any questions or concerns related to the surgery, vaccinations or any treatment we administered, call 440-934-5353 during business hours. If there is an emergency after hours, call 440-522-6559.
- ☺ At no cost to you, we will see or arrange for another veterinarian to see your pet again if there is a reason to do so. If you choose to see another veterinarian, you will be responsible for paying the full cost of the service.

## Recap

- ✓ We expect your pet to eat and drink, pee and poop within 24 hours of the surgery.
- ✓ Some pets vomit once or twice. If after 24 hours your pet is lethargic, isn't eating, isn't eliminating, has diarrhea or vomits more than once or twice, call us immediately.
- ✓ Keep your pet from being too active and only leash walk your dog for a week.
- ✓ Check the incision area daily.
- ✓ Call us immediately if you have questions or concerns.