

PETS



Valley Vets

Quality, affordable care

24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE*

*Working with the Royal Veterinary College

Pet after an Anaesthetic and/or Surgery

Caring for your pet - After an Anaesthetic and/or Surgery

Pets Name

Owner's Name

Procedure

After an anaesthetic

Effects of the anaesthetic

Your pet may be quiet and sleepy for 24 hours or more after a general anaesthetic (GA) and on arriving home may wish to rest. This is normal and they should be left to sleep for as long as they wish. During this time, try to avoid disturbance by other pets or children and ensure your pet is in a warm, confined and safe environment where they cannot harm themselves. Do not allow your pet to jump in and out of the car, on to furniture or to go up and down stairs as they may still be a bit unsteady and disorientated, and may fall. These after effects of anaesthesia normally pass within 24 hours. Please let us know if they persist.

Eating and drinking

In the evening after a GA offer a small light meal (boiled chicken, white fish or scrambled egg) or a small meal of your pet's normal food. Do not worry if your pet does not want to eat, or even if they vomit after eating, as this is not unusual. Ensure fresh water is readily available. If your pet refuses to eat after the first day of recovery please contact us. If your pet vomits more than once please contact us.

Exercise

Strict rest is important. Even where no surgery has been performed, it is advisable that NO exercise is given for 24 hours after recovery. When surgery has been performed you will receive specific advice regarding exercise.

After surgery or a procedure

Wounds and stitches

Some fur will have been clipped from one or more places. A front leg and/or the neck are the usual areas where anaesthetics, sedations, drips and drugs are injected and where blood samples are taken from. A large area of fur may be clipped from the operation site to prevent the fur from contaminating the surgical area. Stitches can be irritating for some animals so they may lick or scratch them. Do not allow your pet to lick or scratch its wound as this can cause or worsen an infection. We recommend the use of an Elizabethan ('Buster') collar or T-shirt to prevent your pet from interfering with its wound. If your pet manages to remove any of their stitches, or the wound is showing signs of redness, swelling, bleeding or discharge, please let us know straight away.

Bandages

It is essential that bandages stay completely dry. If you think that the bandage has become wet or if it has become damaged, slipped or twisted then contact us immediately. An Elizabethan collar may be necessary to prevent your pet from chewing its bandage (see Bandage Aftercare info sheet).

After dental treatment

After a dental operation your pet's mouth may be sore, so feed only soft food until instructed otherwise. Do not be alarmed if you notice blood stained saliva within the first few days after the operation, especially if teeth have been extracted; this is quite normal. For more specific instructions regarding post dental care consult the dental instructions.

IF YOU ARE WORRIED ABOUT YOUR DOG OR HAVE ANY QUERIES DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT US – THERE IS SOMEONE AVAILABLE TO TAKE YOUR CALL 24 HOURS A DAY.

CALL US ON 01438 369390 OR OUR OUT OF HOURS COVER (RVC) ON 01707 666399.



www.thevalleyvet.co.uk



Valley Vets

9 Hydean Way, Stevenage, Herts SG2 9XH

www.thevalleyvets.co.uk



01438 369 390
info@thevalleyvets.co.uk



Specific - instructions for your pet

Medication:

Please give the following medication as directed. It is essential not to miss any doses, so if you are having trouble with a reluctant patient please telephone us for advice.

Medication	Dosage	Date to Start	AM/PM

Exercise:

Dogs:

- ☐ Your dog can return to normal exercise when the effects of the anaesthetic have worn off.
- ☐ Restrict exercise totally (visits outside to pass urine / faeces only) until your next appointment.

☐ _____

Cats:

- ☐ Your cat can return to normal exercise when the effects of the anaesthetic have worn off.
- ☐ Restrict exercise totally (keep your cat indoors with a litter tray) until your next appointment.

☐ _____

Special Instructions:

1. _____

2. _____

Follow Up Appointments (Free of Charge):

Date	Time	Vet / Nurse

- ☐ Stitches will be removed in _____ days.
- ☐ There are no stitches to remove.