



## SPAY/NEUTER POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

Please  
do all

of the following over the next 10-14 days after surgery

- Keep animal in a warm, dry, quiet area and away from all hazards (including stairs)
- Keep animal away from children and other animals
- Avoid handling animal too much as he/she may try to bite or scratch you
- **DOGS** should be leash walked only
- Non-feral cats should be kept indoors
- No running and jumping
- No swimming, bathing, or be grooming
- Prevent licking or biting at sutured area by using an e-collar or anti lick gel

### Regarding food and water

- Offer small amount of food and water today as soon as animal is fully awake
- If vomiting occurs, wait until next day to give more food
- Provide normal amount/type of food and water to animal on day after surgery
- Apply Karo Syrup™ to gums to encourage eating

Sutures and tattoo **are generally not** placed on male cats. For other animals, sutures are generally placed under the skin and do not need to be removed. Your animal received a green tattoo on/near the incision site (this permanently identifies animal as sterilized). If animal allows, check incision site once daily for one week. A very small amount of redness/ swelling at incision may occur.

If you notice any of the following, **immediately** notify Operation PETS (OP) at (716) 783-8998, during normal business hours. If OP is unavailable, you must seek help from a full-service veterinary hospital or veterinary emergency clinic. All bills incurred will be at the owner/agent's expense.

- Blood
- Excessive Redness
- Discharge
- Lethargy
- Open incision
- Swelling
- Decreased Appetite
- Vomiting

Your regular veterinarian must address illnesses or injuries that are not a directly related to surgery, at the owner/agent's expense.

- Coughing
- Decreased Appetite
- Vomiting
- Health problems/concerns in the post-operative period
- Sneezing
- Lethargy
- Not breathing normally

OP will re-check at our clinic any post-operative complications resulting directly from the surgery during our normal business hours. Call us for an appointment as soon as you see cause for concern. If you leave an afterhours message at OP regarding a post-operative health concern, your call may not be returned until the following business day.

We cannot be held responsible for complications resulting from failure to follow post-operative instructions or for contagious diseases in post-operative period. Watch our post-operative discharge instructions at [www.operationpets.org](http://www.operationpets.org).

Greater Buffalo Veterinary Services: 716-839-4043 Northtowns Veterinary Emergency: 716-213-0283

Hamburg Village Veterinary: 716-646-4023 True Care Veterinary Hospital: 716-759-6225

**See Your Veterinarian:** Operation PETS recommends you establish a relationship with any of your local full-service veterinary hospitals for annual exams and vaccination schedules tailored to your pet's needs.

**Regarding Feral Cats:** Both male and female feral cats can usually be released 24-48 hours following surgery. Ask for special instructions about female cats who are lactating. Place cloth over trap to decrease cat's stress. Place newspapers or towel under trap to absorb urine and feces. All skin sutures are absorbable and do not need to be removed. Monitor well to ensure that cat is breathing normally and is not bleeding from the surgical site or ear tip site. When cat is awake, mix canned food with water, roll into ball, and drop into trap. Cat needs to be fully awake and alert before it is released. Be sure that cat does not require any further medical care before releasing it from trap. Only release cat from trap during daytime and in area away from roads or other hazards. Fresh food, water, and shelter need to be made available to the released cat. After release, frequent

visits should be made to the site to ensure that cat has fully recovered and there are no complications. Please seek medical care as outlined above if cat is not recovering well from surgery for any reason.