

POST-SURGICAL CARE INSTRUCTIONS FOR DOGS



THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING TO SPAY/NEUTER!

Your pet has undergone surgery. It is very important that these care instructions are followed for your pet's well-being and a safe recovery. Please note that KHS is not responsible for the cost of emergency treatment as a result of improper patient care after surgery. Failure to follow these instructions could result in further treatment or surgery at your expense.

If you do not understand any part of the instructions or have questions about caring for your pet during recovery, please contact the Kalamazoo Humane Society for clarification.

Pain medication (dogs only) and e-collars (cats and dogs) are available for purchase. Please ask a staff member before you go home with your pet to find out what your pet may need.

DO'S AND DON'TS

- ✓ DO keep your pet confined, quiet, warm and dry while recovering from anesthesia.
- ✓ DO keep activity restricted for 7-10 days; too much activity may reopen incision.
- ✓ DO leash walk dogs to go potty for 7 days, even if your yard is fenced.
- ✓ DO keep children and other pets away from recovering pet for at least 48 hours.
- ✓ DO keep pet inside for 7-10 days to recover.
- ✓ DO offer your pet half the normal amount of food in the evening after surgery. Resume normal diet the next day. Pets less than 4 months old or less than 10 lbs, feed a small amount right away on arriving home, and again 4 hours later.
- ✓ DO check incision site twice daily for any abnormal swelling, redness, discharge or bleeding.
- ✓ DO monitor your pet's urination and defecation. Some dogs strain a little after surgery. Some loose stool is possible for 24-48 hours after surgery.
- ✓ DO check your pet's gums daily; they should be pink in color.
- ✓ DO keep females away from unaltered males for 2 weeks after surgery.
- ✗ DON'T let your pet run, jump or play for 7-10 days; excessive activity may cause internal or bleeding problems.
- ✗ DON'T let your pet lick the incision site; use of an E-collar after surgery will ensure they do not re-open incision.
- ✗ DON'T clean incision site with alcohol, peroxide or anything else. Do not apply any ointment to the wound.
- ✗ DON'T bathe your pet or allow swimming for at least 2 weeks after surgery.
- ✗ DON'T put animals back outside after surgery due to high risk of introducing infection.
- ✗ DON'T give human pain medications to pets; they are toxic to animals and may cause death!

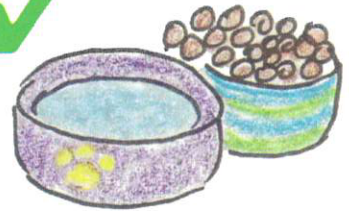
HOW TO CARE FOR YOUR DOG AFTER A SPAY OR NEUTER SURGERY



Plenty of rest in a comfortable, quiet place.

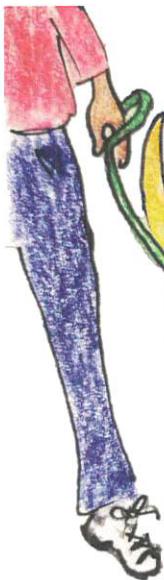


Drinking water available at all times.
First night: 1/2 normal food.
Then feed normally.



Give the medicine as instructed.

No bath or swimming for 2 weeks.



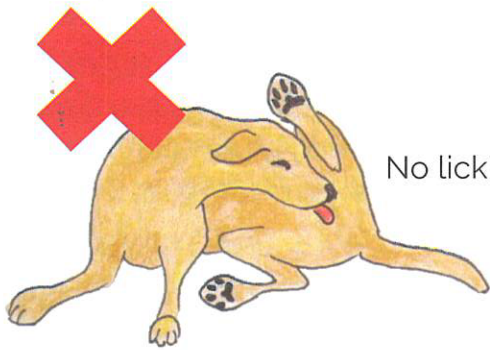
Only short, leash walks for 2 weeks.



No running, jumping, rough playing for 2 weeks.



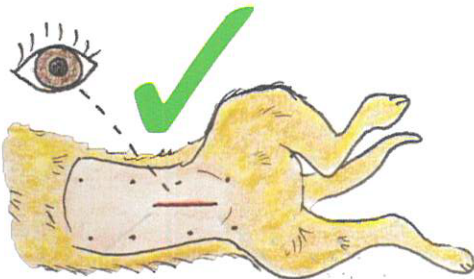
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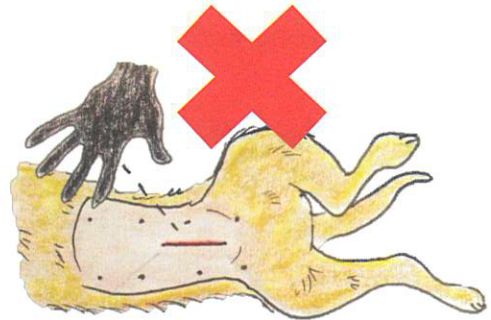
No licking of the wound.



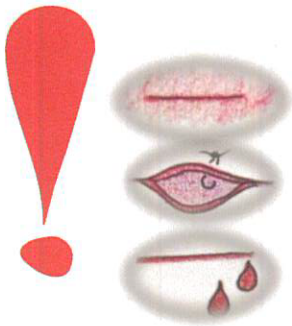
Wear E-collar for 2 weeks.
See www.kazoohumane.org for fitting instructions.



Look at the wound twice a day.



Do not touch or clean the wound.



If the incision is inflamed, open, draining, or bleeding, call KHS right away.



269-344-1474

THINGS TO KNOW

- An injection was given during surgery for pain relief and to help reduce swelling for 24 hours.
- Anesthesia can remain in an animal's system following surgery. Your pet may be a little more lethargic or short-tempered than usual for the first 24 hours.
- Male surgical incisions are left open to reduce swelling and lessen the pain. Slight red spotting may occur for up to 5 days. The scrotum may swell a little in the first few days.
- A small, green line is tattooed on your pet's belly as a standard verification that the pet has been surgically altered. This prevents future unnecessary anesthesia or surgery.
- No suture removal is required after surgery.
- Male animals can impregnate a female for approximately 1 week after surgery.

WHEN TO CONTACT SPCA SWMI (269) 344+1474

- If your pet is in excessive discomfort upon his/her arrival home.
- If abnormal behavior lasts more than 24 hours after surgery.
- If excessive vomiting, extended lack of appetite, depression or lethargy.
- If excessive swelling, redness, discharge, bleeding or open incision.
- If an animal is not urinating or defecating normally after 48 hours.
- If gums appear pale, blue or purple in color, seek emergency care immediately.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

- If SPCA SWMI cannot be reached and you believe your pet is experiencing a veterinary emergency relating to a recent spay or neuter surgery, contact your primary veterinarian immediately.
- The closest 24/7 emergency veterinary clinic in the greater Kalamazoo area is:
VCA Southwest Michigan Animal Emergency & Referral Center
104 W Cork Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49001
(269) 381-5228