

Post-Operative Care

Your dog has undergone the following procedure under sedation/general anaesthetic:

Your dog should be awake, alert and eating by the time he/she comes home, but we also advise the following to assist him/her to a quick and full recovery:

- Keep your dog warm and quiet overnight.
- Lead exercise for toilet purposes only for the next _____ days.
- Cage rest your dog for the next _____ day(s)/week(s).
- Feed a bland but tempting meal if appetite appears reduced, as often occurs post anaesthesia/surgery. Hill's a/d or i/d or fresh warm cooked chicken or white fish are often appreciated. *A complementary tin of i/d has been provided for you today.*

Your vet may have prescribed the following medications to aid appetite:

- **Metacam:**

This is a painkiller and should be given at the following dose once a day with food:

Starting at _____ on _____.

- **Antibiotics** to prevent or treat infection:

Your dog has been prescribed:

Please give _____ starting on
_____.

- **Additional medications** - give these carefully following the instructions on the label(s)

Wound and Dressing Care:

- Check the operation site two to three times daily to check that your dog has not interfered with it or removed any stitches, staples or dressings. If you notice any smell, redness, discharge or swelling, contact us to arrange a check up appointment.
- A Buster collar or post-op coat must be used if your dog tries to interfere with any wounds, dressings, drains or stitches (see Buster Collar section).
- Dressings must be kept dry (see Dressings section).
- Wounds may be closed using a variety of techniques, some of which look completely invisible! However, if your dog has skin stitches or staples these will need removing in _____ days.

Dressings

- Success of your dog's treatment depends on good care of a dressing. Further charges will be made for dressing changes.
- Dressings must be kept dry. **Temporarily** a plastic bag can be used for this purpose when outside. **Never** leave on.
- If you notice any swelling or soreness around the dressing, please contact the surgery.
- If you notice any signs of sudden discomfort, please contact the surgery.
- If you notice any discharge or sudden smell from the dressing, please contact the surgery.
- If the dressing slips, please make an appointment as soon as possible as it may need replacing. Due to having fur, this is a common complication of dressing applications in dogs.

Buster Collars

Success of your dog's treatment relies on your dog not interfering with any wounds, dressings, drains or stitches; complications can arise if you fail to stop interference.

- Some dogs may "sulk" or panic when a collar is first applied, but will adjust in a short while, especially if distracted with tasty titbits or taken for a walk.
- Dogs will be unable to gauge the extra width of their head and so will bump into furniture and door openings.
- Raise your dog's water and feeding bowls if necessary. Only in a **minority** of cases is it necessary to remove the collar to allow your dog to eat. If this is the case, **do not** leave your dog unattended until it is replaced.
- Groom your dog daily, including wiping the face and eyes, whilst it is wearing a Buster Collar.
- Clean the collar regularly.
- Keep dogs on a lead whilst wearing a Buster Collar.

The size of collar recommended for your dog is:

(Obtainable from Reception)

Other Information

Always contact the surgery if your dog does not seem well - it is better to check than ignore possible problems.

Your next appointment is:

With: -----

On: -----

At: -----

If you have any queries, including emergency queries outside normal working hours, please contact us on **01722 333291**.



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Quick Reference Guide



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