

# CCSPCA Spay/Neuter Services

## Post-Operative Instructions



### Care After Surgery

- Spaying is a major abdominal surgery. Your pet has had surgery and needs to be handled gently. Good post-operative care is simple, but important.
- Exercise should be restricted for the first few days after surgery to allow proper healing and prevent stress on the skin closure.

### Feeding

- Because of the anesthesia, your pet may not have a normal appetite for several days. Feed very small meals at first as vomiting can also occur after anesthesia. Water also should be given in small amounts at first.

### Operation Site

- Your pet's surgical site was closed with a combination of buried stitches and skin glue. No sutures need to be removed. A green "X" tattoo was placed next to the site as additional proof of surgery.
- Observe the site daily and check the skin for signs of inflammation or infection. If you notice redness, swelling or discharge from the area, notify us at 559-237-1150 or email [spayneuter@ccspca.com](mailto:spayneuter@ccspca.com).
- The surgical site may be slightly sore, but should not be overly painful. A pain reliever injection was given at the time of surgery. Contact us if you feel your pet is in severe pain.
- The site should not be exposed to water for 7-10 days as that will break down the glue and cause the incision to open. Do not bathe your pet for 10 days.

### **KEEP ANIMAL FROM LICKING, CHEWING, OR SCRATCHING AT INCISION SITE**

If you notice your pet licking the area, be aware that licking will break down the glue and cause the incision to open and can also cause infection of the site. Prevent further licking with the use of an e-collar available at our clinic. The collar will need to be large enough to prevent the tongue from reaching the surgical site. The collar should be on any time you are not able to directly observe your pet for the next 10 days.

### **Special Instructions**

- If you notice that your cat's litter is sticking to the surgical site, switch to shredded newspaper for a few days until the incision heals.
- If your pet was a female in heat at the time of her spay surgery, she will need to be kept separate from male dogs for several days. She will still have attractive odors and may still be receptive to the males. Breeding following surgery can result in **FATAL** internal bleeding.

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