



COMMUNITY SERVICES Irvine Animal Care Center

POST-SURGICAL CARE INSTRUCTIONS

E-COLLAR

- If your newly adopted dog or cat has recently had surgery, they will be sent home with an e-collar to prevent them from licking or chewing the affected area.
- The e-collar it is to remain on your pet *at all times*. If the collar is removed it can lead to a costly surgery to repair the incision plus unnecessary pain for your pet.
- **The Irvine Animal Care Center is not responsible for any trauma caused to the incision due to removal of the e-collar.**
- You may remove the e-collar 10 to 14 days post-surgery if there are no complications *and* there is no suture removal.

INCISION CARE:

- Check the incision site daily. Redness and swelling should be minimal. If your pet has moderate or severe swelling, we recommend examination by your veterinarian.
- If your pet's incision site has any marked changes in appearance, such as excessive fluid discharge, separation of wound edges, excessive bleeding, odor, or marked skin discoloration, please call your veterinarian immediately or local 24-hour emergency hospital.
- If stitches and/or staples are present, please have them removed by your veterinarian on the date indicated in their medical record.
- All animals will have a small black or green ink tattoo to indicate that they have been spayed or neutered.

EXERCISE:

- No running, jumping, playing, swimming or other strenuous activity for 10 to 14 days. Pets must be kept indoors where they can stay clean, dry and warm. No baths during the recovery period. Keep your pet quiet.
- Your pet should not be walked other than for very short potty breaks for 10 days post surgery.

MEDICATION:

- If prescribed, please continue the medication as instructed on the prescription label for the full course of treatment. Do not discontinue *any* medication unless instructed by your veterinarian.

