



AFTERCARE INSTRUCTIONS

CONFINEMENT

YOUR PET'S ACTIVITY MUST BE STRICTLY LIMITED FOR THE FIRST 8 WEEKS AFTER SURGERY. THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF THE HEALING PROCESS.

YOUR PET MUST BE CONFINED TO A CRATE, PEN, OR SMALL ROOM AT ALL TIMES. THIS AREA MUST BE LESS THAN 4'x4' WITH NONSKID FLOORING AND NO FURNITURE. YOUR PET CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO RUN, JUMP, PLAY, OR ROAM FREE IN THE HOUSE AS THESE ACTIVITIES CAN CAUSE THE SURGERY TO FAIL.

YOUR PET MUST BE KEPT SEPARATED FROM OTHER SOURCES OF EXCITEMENT SUCH AS WINDOWS, CHILDREN, OR OTHER PETS.

ACTIVITY LEVEL

WEEKS 1-2

SHORT, SLOW LEASH WALKS (1-2' LEAD). LEVEL, NONSKID FOOTING. DURATION: 1-3 MINUTES.
YOU MAY TAKE UP TO THREE OF THESE SHORT WALKS DAILY.

WEEKS 3-4

SHORT, SLOW LEASH WALKS (1-2' LEAD). LEVEL, NONSKID FOOTING. DURATION: 3-5 MINUTES.
YOU MAY TAKE UP TO FOUR OF THESE SHORT WALKS DAILY.

WEEKS 5-6

MODERATE, SLOW LEASH WALKS (SHORT 2-4' LEAD). LEVEL, NONSKID FOOTING. DURATION: 5-7 MINUTES.
YOU MAY TAKE UP TO FIVE OF THESE SHORT WALKS DAILY.

WEEKS 7-8

MODERATE, SLOW LEASH WALKS (SHORT 4-6' LEAD). LEVEL, NONSKID FOOTING. DURATION: 5-7 MINUTES.
YOU MAY TAKE UP TO SIX OF THESE SHORT WALKS DAILY.

YOUR PET MUST BE KEPT ON A LEASH **AT ALL TIMES** WHEN OUT OF THE CONFINED AREA FOR THE FIRST 8 WEEKS AFTER SURGERY. ANY SUDDEN, DRAMATIC CHANGE IN USE OF THE OPERATED LIMB MAY INDICATE A SEVERE PROBLEM; PLEASE CONTACT US AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IF THIS IS NOTED.

ELIMINATIONS

IT MAY TAKE 3-4 DAYS FOR YOUR PET TO HAVE A NORMAL BOWEL MOVEMENT. THIS IS COMMON AFTER RECEIVING NARCOTICS AND IS NOT A CAUSE FOR ALARM.



AFTERCARE INSTRUCTIONS CONT.

INCISION

YOUR PET MUST WEAR THE ELIZABETHAN COLLAR AT ALL TIMES FOR THE FIRST 2 WEEKS AFTER SURGERY TO PREVENT DAMAGE TO THE INCISION. ANY LICKING OR SCRATCHING CAN CAUSE THE INCISION TO OPEN UP OR BECOME INFECTED.

EVALUATE THE INCISION DAILY FOR SIGNS OF INFECTION (INCREASING REDNESS, FIRM SWELLING, HEAT, PAIN, OR ANY DISCHARGE) AND CONTACT US IF ANY ARE NOTED. A MODERATE AMOUNT OF SWELLING AND REDNESS/BRUISING IS NORMAL.

BATHING IS ONLY ALLOWED AFTER THE SKIN INCISION HAS HEALED.

ICE/HEAT

DAYS 1-3 AFTER SURGERY: PLACE A COLD COMPRESS ON THE INCISION FOR 5-10 MINUTES EVERY 8 HOURS.

DAYS 4-7 AFTER SURGERY: PLACE A WARM COMPRESS ON THE INCISION FOR 5-10 MINUTES EVERY 8 HOURS.

RANGE OF MOTION (ROM)

MOVE THE AFFECTED JOINT THROUGH AS FULL OF A RANGE OF MOTION AS YOUR PET WILL ALLOW. SOME MILD DISCOMFORT IS NORMAL INITIALLY BUT WILL IMPROVE OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS. WARM COMPRESS FOR 5 MINUTES BEFORE ROM AND COLD COMPRESS FOR 5 MINUTES AFTER IS RECOMMENDED.

WEEKS 1-2

GENTLE ROM OF ALL JOINTS ON THE SURGERY LEG EVERY 8-12 HOURS WITH 10 REPETITIONS FOR EACH JOINT.

WEEKS 3-4

GENTLE ROM OF ALL JOINTS ON THE SURGERY LEG EVERY 8 HOURS WITH 15 REPETITIONS FOR EACH JOINT.

WEEKS 5-6

GENTLE ROM OF ALL JOINTS ON THE SURGERY LEG EVERY 8 HOURS WITH 20 REPETITIONS FOR EACH JOINT.

WEEKS 7-8

GENTLE ROM OF ALL JOINTS ON THE SURGERY LEG EVERY 8 HOURS WITH 30 REPETITIONS FOR EACH JOINT.

RECHECKS

PLEASE MAKE AN APPOINTMENT TO HAVE YOUR PET'S INCISION EVALUATED IN 10-14 DAYS.

PLEASE SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT EIGHT WEEKS AFTER SURGERY FOR A PROGRESS EVALUATION.

