

**MIDDLETOWN VETERINARY HOSPITAL  
366 WARWICK RD.  
MIDDLETOWN, DE 19709  
(302)378-2342**

**CARE OF YOUR PET FOLLOWING SURGERY**

Pet's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Procedure \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Proper Restraint** Please protect your pet when leaving the hospital by using either a leash or a carrier. Excessive activity may result in your pet getting loose or result in injury as your pet is recovering from surgery. Do not allow your pet to become overly active and excited when you pick him/her up from the hospital.

**Food and Water** With the excitement of returning home, your pet may be inclined to eat and drink which may likely result in vomiting. To avoid this, we recommend restricting all food and water the evening following surgery. Normal feeding can resume the next morning.

**Eliminations** Many patients do not have a bowel movement for 24-36 hours after surgery. This is normal.

**Activity** Patients recovering from surgery or illness should have limited exercise. Avoid access to stairs or situations that could lead to injury. Due to effects of anesthesia, he/she may be groggy for 12 hours.

**Sutures** Discourage your pet from licking or chewing at the sutures. Please check the incision daily for any swelling, redness, or discharge. If it appears irritated or infected, please give us a call. Sutures will be removed in 10-14 days by one of our veterinary technicians. you may stop in anytime during regular office hours to have this done.

**Monitor** A decrease in activity or appetite for one or two days may be observed. However, if your pet exhibits any of the following symptoms, please notify us: 1) loss of appetite for over 2 days, 2) refusal to drink water for over 1 day, 3) weakness, 4) depression, 5) vomiting, or 6) diarrhea

**Special Instructions:**

We strongly recommend the use of an E-collar to aid in preventing your pet from licking or chewing the sutures out. These may be purchased for an additional \$15.

If you chose to get pain management for your pet please start this medication the day after surgery.

**We now have emergency hours from 8pm-8am. Please feel free to call us with any questions or concerns for your pet after surgery.**