

COMMUNITY ANIMAL HOSPITAL

921 Route 53
Morris Plains, NJ 07950
(973) 267-4220

POST-SURGICAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Your pet may be a little sleepy for a few days after the surgery (just as a human would be). If he or she seems extremely lethargic or is not eating, please contact us.
2. It is very important to keep your pet's activity to a minimum for the next week to help prevent the surgical site from becoming infected or opening up. Please walk your pet on a leash at all times when outside and avoid rough play. Cats should be kept inside for 10-14 days after the surgery. In addition, no baths should be given for 10-14 days.
3. Please check the incision every day for redness, swelling, or discharge. A small amount of redness or bruising can be normal, however, if it is excessive, please contact us. Cats that have been declawed may limp for a few days after the surgery, but bleeding, oozing, or swollen paws should be seen by a veterinarian.
4. Most of our routine surgeries do not have any external stitches to remove—the stitches are underneath the skin and dissolve with time. Occasionally, we will use external stitches that need to be removed in 10-14 days. The technician that discharges your pet will let you know if we need to see him or her for suture removal.
5. Please monitor your pet carefully for any licking at the surgery site. If he or she is licking a lot, please call us—your pet may need to wear an Elizabethan collar (lampshade collar) until the incision heals.
6. Dog and cat spays and dog neuters can eat normally when they go home. For cat neuters that go home the same day of surgery, please limit their evening meal to ½ of their normal portion. Do not worry if this meal is not eaten—anesthesia can sometimes make animals nauseous. If your pet is not eating by the next day, please call us.
7. For cat surgeries, please use paper litter for 3-5 days after surgery, declaws 7-10 days. Carefresh or Yesterday's News are brands of litter that are made from paper—you may use these as well.