



HOW TO CARE FOR YOUR CAT FOLLOWING DECLAWING

PROPER RESTRAINT

Your cat may still be slightly groggy from the anesthesia as he/she leaves the office. To prevent any injury, it is best to have your cat in a pet carrier when leaving the clinic. A pet carrier will ensure the safety of your cat and decrease any chance of injury during the ride home. Upon arriving home, provide a quiet area where your cat can fully recover over the next 12-24 hours.

FOOD AND WATER

Your cat has been offered food and water overnight and this morning. Wait 1-2 hours after arriving home before offering food.

ELIMINATION

The gastrointestinal tract can be affected by general anesthesia and surgery. This may result in your cat having soft stools or constipation for 24-36 hours following the general anesthesia and surgical procedure. Some cats may have bright red blood on their stools associated with stress. If any changes persist beyond 36 hours please contact our office.

You **MUST** use the “Yesterday’s News” cat litter (or shredded newspaper) for the next 7-10 days. Clay litter should be avoided, as it can infiltrate the incisions, causing irritation and possible infection.

EXERCISE AND ACTIVITY

Your cat is recovering from major surgery, so remember to limit their activity as much as possible. We recommend you keep him/her confined to a small area during the recovery period. **Discourage jumping of any kind.** Jumping may cause the incisions to open and require surgery to repair the damage. Normal activity may be resumed in 7-10 days.

SUTURES

___ Surgical glue was used to close the incisions made in your cat’s feet.

You should check each foot daily for any excessive swelling, redness or discharge. There should not be any bleeding. Call our office if any problems arise.

MONITOR

While we feel confident your cat will recover normally, there are risks associated with any episode of general anesthesia. Call our office if you note any abnormalities over the next week. These include, but are not limited to:

- *Loss of appetite for more than 2 days
- *Refusal to drink water for more than 1 day
- *Weakness or listlessness
- *Vomiting

MEDICATION

Your cat has been prescribed **Onsior** for control of pain and inflammation. Give one tablet by mouth daily by mouth until gone.

Begin administering your cat's pain medication tomorrow.

QUESTIONS

If you have any questions about your pet's follow-up care, please call our office immediately!