



CARING FOR YOUR PET FOLLOWING A DENTAL CLEANING

PROPER RESTRAINT

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

FOOD AND WATER

Your pet has been fasted for his/her safety in preparation for general anesthesia and surgery. Because of this, he/she may want to eat upon returning home. It is best to wait 1-2 hours after arriving home before offering a small amount of food. Offer ½ a normal meal this evening. Normal meals can be resumed tomorrow morning.

Some tenderness and discomfort may accompany dental care. Therefore, it may be appropriate to feed canned or moistened food for 2-3 days. (Moisten food with water or low-sodium broth). If discomfort continues beyond 3 days, contact our office.

ELIMINATION

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

EXERCISE AND ACTIVITY

Limit your pet's exercise and activity for the rest of the evening. This includes keeping your pet indoors tonight, limiting access to stairs, and discouraging jumping. Normal activity may be resumed in 12-24 hours, or as soon as grogginess subsides.

MONITOR

While we feel confident your pet 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

PAIN MEDICATION

Begin administering your pet's pain medication tomorrow morning.

QUESTIONS

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