



# The SPAY CLINIC

SMALL ANIMAL SPAYS & NEUTERS

## Home Care for Dogs

Please feed your dog 1/4 to 1/3 the amount of food and water that they normally eat. If he or she does well with this meal, continue feeding normal amounts tomorrow morning. Decreased appetite, vomiting or diarrhea can be normal for up to 24 hours following surgery. Keep your dog's activity level down for 1 week following the surgery. Take your dog out on a leash to go to the bathroom and no walks for 1 week (short leashed walks are permitted for the week after that). No baths, grooming or swimming for 2 weeks. Your dog must stay completely clean and dry for 2 weeks.

Please check your dog's incision daily until it has healed. Contact us if you notice excessive redness, swelling or any discharge. There is a small white piece of tape over your dog's incision which will fall off on its own. **Please do not remove this tape to look at the incision, as this will disturb the incision site and prolong the healing process. DO NOT PUT ANYTHING ON THE INCISION for any reason, without first consulting a veterinarian.**

Your dog is sent home wearing an Elizabethan collar to prevent licking. ***This must stay on for at least 10 to 14 days.*** After this time, you may remove the E-collar as long as the tape has fallen off, the incision is healing well and they are not licking the area excessively. If not it may need to stay on for an additional week. You may need to elevate their food and water dishes. The E-collar may be awkward for your dog at first, but with patience they adapt well within 48 hours.

Females may experience a lump about the size of a ping-pong ball or smaller at one end of the incision. This is a suture reaction and is considered normal. It should resolve within 4 to 6 weeks.

If your dog received a tattoo, it may scab over and peel off slowly. Please do not disrupt the scab, or the tattoo could fade and become un-readable. If you find that your pet seems uncomfortable or the tattoo is itchy you may apply a small amount of un-scented cream (Lubriderm). Tattoos may fade or blur over time.

Help us to keep our database current by informing us of any changes in your contact information OR if your pet changes ownership.

**If you have any concerns regarding your dog's surgery, please contact us at 780-426-4221. For after hours, contact Edmonton Veterinarians' Emergency Clinic at 780- 433-9505.**