

# **FOR PAWS CLINIC**

40501-B Fremont Blvd.  
Fremont, Ca. 94538  
510-573-4660

## **Post-operative Instructions for Cats & Rabbits**

Your pet has undergone general anesthesia and surgical sterilization. We recommend that the following post-operative instructions are reviewed and followed carefully.

1. Stomach upset can occur due to anesthetic recovery and/or travel. For cats, to help minimize stomach upset, do not offer food or water for two hours after arriving home, unless otherwise instructed at release. You may then offer water and a small amount of food, and gradually increase to normal portions within 24 hours. If your pet does not readily eat or drink after 24 hours, contact us or your regular veterinarian. \*(Note: Rabbits may go back to regular food and water intake as soon as they return home)
2. Keep your animal in a clean, warm, and comfortable area. You will need to monitor recovery and restrict your pet's activity for at least five (5) days.
3. Check the incision area twice daily until healed. A small amount of blood at the incision is normal immediately after surgery. If you notice continued drainage, redness, or extreme swelling at the incision site, contact us or your regular veterinarian.
4. Monitor your pet for EXCESSIVE licking or chewing at the incision area. An Elizabethan collar (E-collar) may be required if this occurs. (Cats and rabbits rarely require the use of E-collars...they are more commonly needed for dogs.) If needed, they can be obtained at our office, your regular veterinarian's office, or at most pet stores for a minimal fee.
5. The suture material used for your pet's surgery is dissolvable, but may take up to four weeks to absorb. If the skin sutures are still present after four weeks, they can be removed either at For Paws Clinic or at your regular veterinarian's office. Call first for an appointment. **(Rabbits and male cats do not have any skin sutures)**
6. **DO NOT** give your pet any over-the-counter pain medications such as Tylenol, Motrin, or Aspirin, as they can cause serious complications. Your pet has already received pain medicine with his/her surgical procedure. If additional pain medication is needed, you will receive other instructions prior to your pet's discharge.
7. Bathing is not recommended for at least seven (7) days after surgery.
8. If you have questions or concerns pertaining to your pet's surgery, please call For Paws Clinic at 510-573-4660. Please keep in mind we are only open limited hours during the week, and if you are unable to contact us, you will need to follow up with your regular veterinarian regarding those concerns. (For rabbits, we recommend contacting Dr. Carolyn Harvey, at 510-538-2330) **For any after-hours Emergency, contact Ohlone Veterinary Emergency Clinic, 1618 Washington Blvd., Fremont, at 510-657-6620.**

**FOR PAWS CLINIC IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY ADDITIONAL  
VETERINARY SERVICES OR FEES.**