

**Tualatin Park Veterinary Clinic**  
**503-691-7777**  
**Surgical Discharge Instructions**

Pet Name: <animal>

Date: <date>

Procedure: \_\_\_\_\_

- Your Pet had a surgical procedure today, which means they were placed under general anesthesia. As part of being under general anesthesia, your pet was intubated, which means a tube was placed in the trachea to support breathing. Sometimes, some mild coughing or irritation can occur.
- Your Pet was sedated today for a minor procedure.

**Feeding:**

- Some pets have mild nausea following general anesthesia or sedation. Wait a few hours after returning home to offer a small amount of water. If no vomiting occurs, you may offer free-choice water and a small meal--1/4 to 1/2 the normal amount. If you see any vomiting or diarrhea, withhold food until the following morning. Your pet may return to his or her normal feeding schedule the next day.
- Please see attached documents for special feeding instructions for your pet.

**Activity:**

- Please strictly restrict your Pet's activity for the next \_\_\_\_\_ day(s). Confine your pet indoors and take dogs outside on a leash to eliminate. No running, jumping, leaping on to or off of furniture. If your pet is having a difficult time staying quiet, contact our offices to discuss sedatives. Complications of not keeping your Pet quiet postoperatively can be serious and life-threatening.
- No activity restriction is required.

**Comfort:**

- Your Pet has sutures, which need to be removed in 10-14 days. Check the site several times daily.
- Your Pet has absorbable sutures, which do not need to be removed. Check the site several times daily.

Please monitor your Pet very closely for licking or chewing at the incision site. This is extremely important as pets can open up incision sites very quickly, causing infection, delayed healing or even re-opening of the site (which may require additional surgery).

Your Pet needs to wear an Elizabethan collar (Cone of Shame) at all times when they are not being directly observed. It is important that they wear the collar at night when you are not awake to directly supervise them.

Keep the incision clean and dry. No bathing or swimming for 10-14 days after surgery, or until after the sutures are removed (if applicable).

### **Medications:**

### **What to watch for:**

If any of the following occur, please contact our office immediately. If after hours, we recommend you contact the following emergency veterinary clinic:

Emergency Veterinary Clinic of Tualatin (503) 691-7922

Tanasbourne Veterinary Emergency (503) 629-5800

- Suture site redness, oozing, swelling, missing sutures or pain on light touching.
- Excessive licking, chewing or bothering the suture site (this can be a sign of pain, your veterinarian may prescribe additional pain medications)
- Vomiting or diarrhea, more than one or two episodes or for longer than 24 hours.
- Lack of thirst or appetite, for over 24 hours.
- Straining to urinate or unable to pass urine.
- Listlessness, inactivity or unresponsiveness.
- Soreness, stiffness or pain that does not respond to pain medications