

Arkansas Veterinary Clinic
Rick Hittner, DVM

POST-SURGICAL OVARIOHYSTERECTOMY INSTRUCTIONS

An OVARIOHYSTERECTOMY (Spay) procedure was performed on _____ which removes the internal female organs (ovaries & uterus). This is considered a major abdominal surgical procedure involving general anesthesia.

FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW:

1. Spaying does NOT cause a pet to get fat or lazy. This comes from overfeeding & lack of exercise.
2. Personalities are NOT changed by the procedure. Personalities do NOT fully develop until two (2) years of age. Aggressiveness can be caused by the sexual hormones and sometimes will decrease once the pet is spayed. Aggressiveness is NOT the result of surgery. The personality will only get better.

POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **We highly recommend an Elizabethan Collar “Cone” to prevent licking & chewing at sutures.** These are available at PetSmart. **Restrict jumping/exercise with leash walking as much as possible until the sutures are removed. *There will be additional fees if sutures need to be replaced with or without sedation.**
2. **Give SMALL amounts of WATER ONLY when you get home and at frequent intervals before bedtime tonight.** Do NOT let your pet drink a large quantity at one time—or vomiting will occur. If no vomiting occurs by bedtime, leave water available to the pet during the night.
3. **NO Food until 6 pm the evening of your pets surgery.** Then give her about half the amount you would normally feed. Anesthesia and abdominal surgery may cause nausea and vomiting if the pet is fed too soon.
4. **Do NOT give over the counter medications.** These can be toxic to your pet. Additional pain medication can be dispensed if your pet seems uncomfortable.
5. **If your pet was “in heat” when spayed, keep her away from male dogs until suture removal.** If accidentally bred, of course she cannot get pregnant, BUT internal suture could be torn causing internal bleeding and even death.
6. **Keep the pet WARM & DRY until sutures are removed.**
7. **Notify the clinic if any of the following occur:**
 - A. Vomiting/Diarrhea after 24 hours.
 - B. Refusal to eat after 48 hours.
 - C. Severe pain.
 - D. Any evidence of significant bleeding from the incision.
8. **Suture Removal - () Sutures will dissolve. A return visit is not necessary.**
() **Suture Removal required in 10 days.** (No charge unless sedation required.)

THE OWNER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY AND ALL CHARGES RESULTING FROM ANY COMPLICATION OF THE SURGICAL PROCEDURE BEYOND OUR CONTROL.

X _____ **Date** _____