



## **POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS – DOG NEUTER**

**YOUR DOG'S CARE AFTER SURGERY IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT. PLEASE FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS TO AVOID SERIOUS INJURY (EVEN DEATH) TO YOUR DOG**

ANESTHESIA WEARS OFF SLOWLY IN SOME DOGS. YOUR DOG MAY APPEAR DRUGGED AND BE EXTRA CLUMSY TONIGHT. TONIGHT, IT IS BEST TO LEAVE YOUR DOG ALONE IF HE PREFERS.

TONIGHT, KEEP YOUR DOG CONFINED IN A SMALL ROOM WHERE IT IS WARM AND QUIET. A BATHROOM WORKS WELL, BUT REMEMBER TO KEEP THE TOILET LID DOWN. IF YOUR DOG PANICS WHILE ALONE IN THE SMALL ROOM, LET HIM STAY WITH YOU, AS LONG AS YOU CAN ENFORCE REST AND AVOID ROUGH PLAY WITH CHILDREN OR OTHER PETS.

YOU MAY OFFER SMALL AMOUNTS OF FOOD AND WATER, BUT DON'T BE CONCERNED IF YOUR DOG IS NOT INTERESTED FOR THE FIRST 12-24 HOURS. IF YOUR DOG VOMITS, REMOVE FOOD AND WATER FOR 8 HOURS. IF YOUR DOG CONTINUES TO REFUSE WATER AFTER 24 HOURS, CAREFULLY FORCE-FEED SMALL AMOUNTS OF WATER OR PEDIALYTE.

DO NOT GIVE ASPIRIN, TYLENOL, OR OTHER HUMAN PAIN MEDICATIONS TO YOUR DOG. THESE CAN BE DEADLY TO DOGS.

YOUR DOG SHOULD AVOID HIGH PLACES SUCH AS BEDS OR OTHER FURNITURE FOR 7 DAYS AFTER SURGERY. ALSO, ACTIVITY MUST BE MINIMAL FOR 7-14 DAYS AFTER SURGERY. RUNNING, JUMPING AND WRESTLING WITH OTHER PETS AND CHILDREN ARE KNOWN TO CAUSE DAMAGE TO THE SURGERY AREA. THE CLINIC WILL REPAIR DAMAGED SURGERY SITES, BUT THERE WILL BE A CHARGE TO THE OWNER.

KEEP YOUR DOG CLEAN AND DRY FOR 7 DAYS AFTER SURGERY. DISCOURAGE YOUR DOG FROM LICKING THE INCISION. THIS IS A COMMON PROBLEM, ESPECIALLY IN MATURE MALE DOGS. IF YOUR DOG IS OVER 1 YEAR IN AGE OR IF YOUR DOG HAS MATURE TESTICLES, WE PROVIDE AN "E. COLLAR" THAT HE MUST WEAR CONTINUOUSLY FOR 10 DAYS TO PREVENT FURTHER DAMAGE – THE COST IS \$10. ANTIBIOTICS MAY ALSO BE NECESSARY. PLEASE CALL IF YOU THINK YOUR DOG MAY HAVE DAMAGED HIS SURGERY SITE.

YOUR DOG HAS BURIED SUTURES, SO REMOVAL IS NOT NECESSARY. PLEASE DO NOT PUT ANY LOTIONS OR MEDICATIONS ON THE INCISION AREA UNLESS WE HAVE DIRECTED YOU TO DO SO.

MALES REMAIN FERTILE FOR 3-4 WEEKS AFTER SURGERY – KEEP HIM AWAY FROM FEMALES.

YOUR DOG'S INCISION IS JUST IN FRONT OF THE SCROTUM (SAC THAT USED TO CONTAIN THE TESTICLES). PLEASE CHECK THE INCISION EACH DAY FOR BLEEDING, DISCHARGE, OR WOUND OPENING. SOME BRUISING, REDNESS AND HARD SWELLING ARE EXPECTED AND ARE NOT CAUSE FOR ALARM. IN OLDER AND BIGGER DOGS, THE SCROTUM WILL OFTEN APPEAR BRUISED AND SWELL TO THE SAME SIZE IT WAS BEFORE THE SURGERY – THIS GOES AWAY IN 3-10 WEEKS, DEPENDING ON YOUR DOG'S SIZE, ACTIVITY AND AGE. IF THE SCROTUM BECOMES EXTREMELY LARGE, PLEASE CALL US.

IF YOU SUSPECT YOUR DOG IS HAVING COMPLICATIONS, PLEASE CALL BEFORE COMING TO THE CLINIC. IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, WE HAVE GREAT CONFIDENCE IN ANIMAL EMERGENCY SERVICE; THEIR PHONE NUMBER IS 326-7449. PLEASE BE AWARE YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL EXPENSES.