



RAWC

RAYFORD ANIMAL WELLNESS CLINIC

IMPORTANT SPAY/NEUTER SURGICAL INSTRUCTIONS

Home Care:

Cats should be confined to the house for 10-14 days, **TNR cats** should be confined for 24-48 hours if able, if unable, re-release back to the same location they were trapped.

Dogs should be leash walked only for 10-14 days and kept indoors or crated for the first 24 hours after surgery as it is important to keep them warm and quiet

If your pet seems interested, offer a small amount of food and water 1 hour after your pet has been home. If your pet seems drowsy or if he/she vomits, wait until the following morning to offer food.

* Pets under 4 months of age should be offered normal amount of food and water upon returning home, if your pet does not eat his/her regular food, try feeding canned or baby food, chicken/rice or broth (no sodium)

- No swimming or bathing/grooming for 10-14 days after surgery

-Cats or dogs going to adoption events or on transport need 10-14 day healing time as well

Do not permit rough handling or exercise for 10-14 days, be especially careful to warn children not to touch the pets abdomen or any other incision area

-Pain medication has been prescribed, please follow the written instructions carefully. Do not use any medication that has not been prescribed to your pet as it could potentially be fatal

Licking:

You **must** keep your pet from licking, biting and scratching the incision(s) or surgical glue. We recommend an Elizabethan-collar (E-collar), which fits around the neck and to be worn for 10-14 days while the surgical site heals completely. RAWC has E-collars for purchase or any locale pet store, ask for assistance from an employee in purchasing an E-collar to guarantee an appropriate fit.

Things to watch for:

Anesthetic effects: cat owners may notice some head bobbing, eyes may have a glassy appearance and he/she will also be quiet and have shivers. He/she should return to normal the next day

Dog owners may notice shivers, trembles, salivation and may break housetraining so crate/room resting until the anesthetic has worn off is recommended

Bleeding/Bruising: There may be a small amount of blood seeping and or bruising under or near the incision(s), this is normal and should resolve itself but if it seems extensive please call.

Stitches: There is no need to return to RAWC for suture removal: the sutures we use are self-dissolving. Some female cats and dogs develop swelling about the size of a walnut under or around the spay incision within the first week. It is usually a reaction to the underlying tissue sutures and can take up to 4 weeks to resolve. If swelling increases or other abnormalities are noted please call us. Male dogs can sometimes have minor swelling on the scrotum after neutering but icing with an ice pack wrapped in a cloth for 10-15 minutes, 2-3 times a day for a few days should help resolve this issue, if you are concerned for any reason please call us.

Potential Complication: Spaying and neutering are very common surgeries; however, complications can occur. Minimal redness and swelling should resolve within several days. If it persists longer, please contact the vet staff immediately if you notice any of the following:

- Pale Gums
- Depression
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Discharge or bleeding from incision
- Difficulty urinating/passing stool
- No appetite
- Labored breathing

RAWC wants to Thank You for being a responsible pet owner and having your pet spayed or neutered!

For any complications arising between 8am to 4pm Monday-Friday, please call 281-667-9360 and return to RAWC for follow-up care

AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY CLINICS:

Blue Pearl Veterinary Specialists- 1646 Spring Cypress Rd #100, Spring, TX 77388 - (832) 616 – 5000

Animal Emergency Urgent Care- 27870 Interstate 45 Service Road, The Woodlands, TX 77385 - (281) 367-5444