



SMALL ANIMAL POST OPERATIVE CARE

RECOVERY

Small animals may appear to be quieter than normal following an anaesthetic. If they normally live outdoors bring their hutch indoors into a warm, quiet room or you can leave them in their travel box to recover fully for at least 24 hours. Try to keep them as quiet as possible to avoid any strain on their stitches, if they have any. You may be advised to change sawdust/ shavings to newspaper if your pet has a wound from the operation, this will help to avoid contamination and reduces risk of infection.

FEEDING

Provide water and food to get your pet eating as soon as possible. Normal food is fine following neutering or a similar operation. If your pet has had dental treatment then you may be advised to feed a softer diet for a few days.

STITCHES

In most cases if stitches are needed a dissolving material is used which will gradually disappear as the wound heals. However you may be advised to bring your pet back to have them checked, depending upon the operation that has taken place. Some animals may nibble at their stitches while grooming, so it is important to watch out for this. If this does occur it is possible to use an Elizabethan collar to prevent further trauma.

OTHER

You may be given pain relief, antibiotics or other medication for your pet following their operation, and the nurse will instruct you on administering these. Noticeable swelling, redness, weeping or bleeding from wounds should be reported, along with any unsteadiness, lethargy or not eating, if this continues for more than 24 hours.

If you are concerned about any aspect of your pets recovery please do not hesitate to contact us at the surgery for further advise on 01692 403202