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Post-Spay Home Care Instructions

Spay (Ovariohysterectomy)

A major abdominal surgery under general anesthesia in which the uterus and ovaries are removed.

What you need to know while your pet is healing from surgery

- **Incision**-Look at your pet's incision during discharge with your veterinarian so you will notice changes. Monitor incision daily. If you notice any oozing of the incision (blood or pus) or significant swelling and redness, call us and bring your pet in for evaluation.
- **Keep Your Pet Dry**- Moisture can affect the integrity of the sutures. As such, do not allow your pet to lie in moist areas, or bathe for the next 10 days.
- **Restrict exercise**- Restrict activity for the next 10 days or until sutures are removed. Jumping or running could cause sutures to rupture.
- **Pain Medications**- If your veterinarian prescribed home pain medications, give as directed. **Do not** give over the counter pain medications such as Ibuprofen, and Tylenol. These can be toxic!
- **Recheck**- Return in 10 days so that we may check the incision and remove sutures. This exam is included in the cost of the procedure.
- **Prevent Licking of the Incision**- If your pet begins to lick the incision line, it is important to obtain an e-collar from Preston Animal Hospital to prevent this from occurring. Excessive licking of the incision causes irritation, swelling, and can lead to infection.

Call Preston Animal Hospital if you notice any of the following:

- Vomiting or diarrhea
- Refusal to eat, greater than 24-48 hours post surgery
- Severe pain
- Bleeding or pus from incision site
- Continuous licking or biting at incision site