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| **POST-OPERATIVE CARE SAME DAY OF SURGERY** | **PICK UP TIME**  **3:30pm – 4:00pm** |

Thank you for choosing to have your pet spayed/neutered at the H.O.P.E. Animal Foundation! There are rarely any complications from spay/neuter surgery. You can help to prevent problems by following these simple instructions:

**DO NOT FEED UNTIL 7:00PM**

* Allow free access to water as pet desires.
* Begin feeding small amounts of food at 1-hour intervals, as anesthesia can sometimes upset their stomach.
* Stop feeding if vomiting occurs and begin feeding small amounts the next day.
* Appetite should return gradually within 24 hours of surgery. Lethargy lasting for more than 24 hours post-operative, diarrhea, or vomiting are not normal and your pet should be taken to a veterinarian. Dogs may have a slight cough for a few days after surgery.

**RESTRICT ACTIVITY FOR 7 DAYS**

* Your pet(s) just had a **MAJOR** surgery and will not heal properly unless they stay calm.
* Your pet may be groggy for a day or so, but even when the pet feels better, do **NOT** allow him/her to play freely.
* **NO** swimming, bathing or mud for 2 weeks – keep the incision site dry!
* If female, keep your pet away from males for **AT LEAST** 3 weeks!
* Provide dogs controlled walking on a leash mixed with kennel or indoor house rest, and keep separated from other pets.
* Keep your pet indoors and separated from other pets.

**KEEP ANIMAL FROM LICKING, CHEWING OR SCRATCHING AT INCISION SITE**

* The stitches and glue that hold your pet’s incision together may irritate your pet.
* Look at the surgery site at least twice a day. If you see skin edges, sutures, redness or wetness, you **MUST** get an Elizabethan Collar (often referred to as a “cone”) and keep it on your pet **AT ALL TIMES** for at least one week.
* We recommend your pet receive a post-operative examination 3 to 7 days after surgery. Have the incision checked for complete healing, to remove any skin sutures, and to discuss additional needs, follow-up care, and vaccination boosters.
* Serious consequences, including **DEATH**, can result if your pet licks, chews or scratches at its surgery site.

***IF YOU THINK YOUR PET HAS A SURGERY-RELATED ISSUE, PLEASE BRING HIM/HER BACK TO H.O.P.E. FOR A FREE RE-CHECK ANYTIME MONDAY - THURSDAY FROM 10AM TO 4PM!***

Normal Hours of Operation: Monday 8am – 5pm; Tuesday – Thursday 7:30am – 5pm; Friday – Sunday Closed

If H.O.P.E. is not open and you think your pet has a medical emergency, please contact Fresno Veterinary Specialty and Emergency Center at (559) 451-0800, or your regular veterinarian.

***THANK YOU!***

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