

Gastrointestinal Post-Operative Care



1830 E. Broadway Ave., Gladewater, TX 75647 — (903) 845-2293 — hpah.pet@gmail.com

Your pet has been through a major surgery. They will need special attention for a full, uneventful recovery, just as a human would. Please read and review the following instructions. If you have any questions at any time, please call.

Medications:

Give as directed upon discharge.

Diet:

Your pet had gastrointestinal surgery and will need several days of soft diet and small meals before they can resume their normal diet.

- Feed them ½ can of i/d canned food watered down to form a soup for each meal 4 times daily for the next 3 days.
- Then feed ½ of a can 4 times daily as small, quarter-sized meatballs for two days.
- Then feed ¾ can quarter sized meatballs three to four times daily for two days.
- Then feed 1 full can meatballs two to three times daily for 3 days.
- They can then resume their regular diet in twice daily meals as long as there is no vomiting or diarrhea.

If they become sick to their stomach, discontinue food until the next morning.

Exercise Restrictions:

No bathing for a minimum of 10 days after surgery. Prevent access to steps, climbing and jumping for 14 days so they do not tear or pop his abdominal sutures open. If they are an outdoor dog, they will need to be kept indoors for the next 10-14 days.

Incision Care:

- Check the surgical area(s) daily. Some redness and swelling is a normal consequence of surgery and healing. If the incision becomes painful, opens or discharges pus or blood, please call the clinic immediately. A small amount of clear fluid may ooze from the incision and is considered normal. Monitor your pet for redness/swelling or excessive/odiferous discharge coming from the incision site.
- DO NOT allow your pet to lick, chew, rub or pull at the incision. If they do, you must stop the behavior right away and begin using an Elizabethan collar. If you do not have a collar at home, please pick one up from the clinic at the earliest ability.

Follow-Up:

Your pet has external staples that will need to be removed in 14 days at his post-surgical recheck. Please contact us sooner if you see any signs described below.

Recommendations/Monitoring:

Monitor your pet for no interest in food >24 hours, vomiting despite medication, diarrhea >3 episodes or if blood is present, lethargy, abdominal pain, or any new symptoms/concerns and have your pet evaluated with further concerns.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to help in the care of your pet. Please call if you have any questions or concerns.

For after hours emergencies, contact the East Texas Pet Emergency Clinic at (903) 759-8545. They are located at 812 Gilmer Rd., Longview, TX 75604.