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# Post-operative care for your dog after neutering

## Your dog has had a general anaesthetic and was surgically neutered today.

Your dog should be able to walk, although may be a little drowsy. You may be surprised how bright your dog is, but some special care may be needed. When you get home, take your dog to his/her bed or favourite place and encourage rest. Keep your dog warm and offer a light meal if he/she appears interested in food. The drugs used in the anaesthetic can sometimes cause diarrhoea, however, this should subside after the first few days.

We like to offer tins of Canine I/D diet for our patients to go home with. This is an easily digested food, which will provide your pet with all the nutrition required to recover without upsetting their stomach. We will instruct you on how much to feed your dog should you decide you want this. Ensure that water is near to your dogs bed then leave him/her to rest.

Your dog should be kept in for 24 hours apart from brief toilet visits into the garden. For the next 10-14 days your dog should have gentle lead exercise only to prevent any tension on the wound which may inhibit healing. Try to avoid energetic behaviour e.g. jumping on chairs.

It is important to check the site of the operation daily for any redness, swelling or oozing as well as behaviour changes. Your dog has dissolvable sutures which do not need removed. A collar has been provided to prevent your dog from licking their wound. Please ensure that your pet wears this.

Pain relief was given to your dog today for their operation. The vet has prescribed additional painkiller medication to be given at home. Please follow the instructions printed on the label and below.

Please continue to monitor your dogs weight in the future, as weight gain can be seen after the neutering. It is advised that you reduce your dog's food by 1/3 after the recovery period. You may use our scales to monitor their weight as you require.

Male neutering: Although your dog has been castrated today he can still be fertile for several weeks. Please note that his hormones can also take several weeks to subside, so do not be alarmed if he still shows male behaviours.

**Please arrange a post-operative check-up for \_\_\_\_\_ so we can monitor your dog's progress.**

**If you have any questions or worries about your dog's recovery, please do not hesitate to contact us.**

In an **emergency outside of normal hours** please call **01450 372038** to talk to an on-call member of our vet team