

Novey Animal Hospital
Dr. Patricia Novey, DVM
Dr. Angela Coleman-Wiebe, DVM

Date: _____

**SURGICAL DISCHARGE INSTRUCTIONS
FOR FELINE SPAY**

Patient: _____

Your cat is recovering from major surgery, which requires continued nursing care at home in order to ensure a successful outcome. Your job in the recovery period at home is just as important as the procedure we just completed. This care at home mainly entails **restriction of activity** because your cat does not understand the significance of the recovery period. She will become very active in a short period of time, and confinement indoors by you is of the utmost importance! This entails:

No jumping or running
No playing with other pets

No stair climbing
No "rough housing"

If your cat is to be left alone, she must be confined to a cage or other small area such as a child's playpen or a shower stall. This strict confinement must be continued during the entire convalescent period. Excessive activity often leads to re-injury or serious complications that may necessitate re-operation. This means additional expense to you and discomfort to your cat.

Occasionally, coughing and gagging can result from the endotracheal tube used in the throat to administer the anesthesia. This usually resolves without any medication, but if it persists, contact our office. You may also notice shaved areas on your cat where we applied an IV catheter and various sensors to monitor her heart rate, respiratory rate, oxygen saturation and blood pressure during surgery. These areas will re-grow hair within a few weeks. Please give the prescribed pain medication as directed to you're your cat more comfortable.

Do not bathe your cat during this 10 day recovery period. Observe the incision daily for signs of redness, swelling, or discharge. Please call us if any of these symptoms are evident. The incision should look better daily. If your cat is licking at the incision area, we have various sizes of protective collars to keep your cat from the incision. Licking can lead to inflammation, and cats can chew out sutures in a matter of minutes. Call us as soon as possible if this occurs because this can result in an infection that may require hospitalization. In general, your cat should improve gradually each day. If her condition suddenly worsens please call us as soon as possible.

If you have questions or concerns during your pet's recovery, please do not hesitate to call our office at 878-8800. If you need advice after hours, please call Allied Emergency Hospital at 222-0123.

Please schedule an appointment for a technician to check the incision site and remove any external sutures in about 10 days. (note: most pets do not have external sutures)