

Postoperative Care Instructions for Canine Cystotomy

Your pet has had a procedure with North Peninsula Veterinary Surgical Group called a canine cystotomy. This exploratory surgery allows us to find and remove bladder stones. It is important to allow your pet time to heal, avoiding possible injury while they recover. Please keep this in mind and strictly follow the postoperative care instructions here.

What to Watch For

- Frequent urination (with blood in the urine) is very common for the first few days after surgery and is not a sign of an emergency.
- Male dogs especially can form blood clots that block the urethra. If this has occurred, you may notice that your pet is straining to urinate or failing to produce urine. This is a medical emergency, please take them to a veterinarian immediately.

Activity

- Absolutely no running or jumping, unsupervised use of stairs, or playing roughly with any pets or children.
- All toileting and time outside must be done on-leash.
- Avoid access to slippery floors such as hardwood and stairs.
- Plan to restrict your pet's activity for the next 2 weeks. This includes very short walks on-leash three times a day for toileting purposes only.

Incision Site

- Monitor the surgical site daily for infection. This can present as swelling, redness, discharge or signs of sudden pain to the touch. Call us immediately if you notice any of these.
- Discourage scratching and licking at the incision. Call us if you're struggling to control this behavior.
- Keep the surgery site clean and dry. Do not apply any ointments or other treatments. No bathing or swimming for 14 days after the procedure.

Medications

- Make sure you have a plan to give all medications as directed, including reminders where necessary. Call us if you believe your pet may be having a poor reaction to any of their medications.



Recovery Trajectory

- You can generally expect your pet to have a slow but steady recovery. If you notice that your pet is lethargic, experiencing more pain or seems generally unwell, please call us immediately.
- If you notice that your pet is straining to urinate or failing to produce urine, this is a medical emergency. Please take them to a veterinarian immediately.

Follow-up Appointment

- We will schedule a follow-up appointment to remove sutures and/or staples 10 to 12 days after the procedure.
- We will also schedule send your family veterinarian the results of the stone analysis. They will follow up with you on any dietary changes based on these results.

We're here to help throughout your pet's recovery, please do not hesitate to call us with any questions or concerns.

