

Postoperative Care Instructions for Splenectomy

Your pet has had a procedure with North Peninsula Veterinary Surgical Group called a Splenectomy. This surgery is to remove the spleen. We have sent the tissue to the laboratory for biopsy and analysis and will generally get the results back in about a week. We will call you with the results of the biopsy and discuss our recommendations for treatment, if needed. 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.

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 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. That includes vomiting, diarrhea or dark and tarry stool.

Food & Water

- Your pet should have access to water at all times and can be fed their regular food.



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.

Follow-up Appointment

- We will schedule a follow-up appointment to remove sutures 10 to 14 days after the procedure.

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

