

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR CARE AFTER A DOG CASTRATE



Your dog has had a general anaesthetic today and therefore may be a bit sleepy. Please offer some bland food tonight, ideally home-cooked chicken, white fish or scrambled egg, or dog food based on chicken/white fish.

Please do not worry if he refuses food tonight but please call us tomorrow if he has not eaten food by then. He can be walked on a lead for toilet duty only for the first 2-3 days, until the first post-op check. If we are happy with the healing at this stage he can have 5-10 minutes of gentle exercise on a short lead twice a day until the second post-op check. Please do not let him jump into the car or on/off furniture; if your house has steep stairs, he may need to be carried or helped.

He will have some pain-relieving medication to go home with which is due to be started the day after surgery; please follow the instructions on the label and call us if you have any difficulty administering the medication. He will have had pain relief by injection today.

Please do not let him lick the surgical site: a lampshade collar is included in the price of the castration' and we also offer, for a fee, a medical shirt or inflatable collar. This is particularly important in the first 3 days after the castration when he may particularly want to lick due to the normal inflammation that is part of the healing process. If we are happy with the healing at the first post-op check you may be advised that the collar or medical shirt can be removed for supervised periods of time.

If there is a bandage on one of your pet's legs where we had placed a intravenous cannula, you should remove this when you get home. Please do not leave it on overnight as it may cause swelling of the paw.

**Please ensure you have booked the next post-op check.** These should be at 2-3 days and approximately 10 days after the procedure.

There is a chance there will be swelling at the surgical site and it is ok if there are just a few drops of blood. Please have a look at the wound when you get home to see what it looks like and alert us if swelling or bleeding increases after this point.

If you have any concerns please call us on 01865 736060; if this is after we have closed you will be directed to our out-of-hours provider, telephone number 01993 811355.

Thank you for entrusting your pet to our care.