



## Important Aftercare Instructions

### Home Care

- **Cats** should be confined to the house for seven (7) days, **dogs** should get leash walks only for seven (7) days. For the first 24 hours after surgery, it is especially important to keep them warm and quiet.
- If your pet seems interested, offer a small amount of food and water after 7:00 p.m. If your pet is still drowsy, or if he/she vomits, wait until the following morning to offer food. If your pet keeps this down, you may repeat another mini meal in an hour or so. If your pet is not eating or drinking by the next afternoon, please call us.
- Pets under four months of age should eat as soon as you get home. If your pet does not eat his/her regular food, try feeding canned or baby food to entice him/her to eat.
- No swimming or bathing allowed for ten (10) days after surgery.
- Do not permit any rough handling or exercise of your pet by anyone for seven days.
- Be especially careful to warn children not to touch the pet's abdomen.
- For male cats, use newspaper instead of litter for the first 24 hours after surgery.

### Things To Watch For

**Anesthetic Effects:** Cat owners will notice some head bobbing and weaving, and your cat's eyes may have a glassy appearance. S/he may also be a little quiet but should return to normal the next day. Dog owners may notice that their dog shivers, trembles, or salivates. Your dog may break his/her housetraining so you may want to keep him/her confined to the bathroom or kitchen until the anesthetic has worn off.

**Bleeding / Bruising:** There may be a small amount of blood seeping from the incision. If this persists, please call us. Bruising under or near the spay site is normal, this should resolve itself, but if it seems extensive, please call.

**Licking: Do not** let your pet lick the incision site. If your pet is doing so, please visit your nearest pet store to purchase an e-collar. Your pet may need to wear this while the incision is healing.

**Stitches:** There is no need to return to the Fix Our Ferals for suture removal; the sutures that we use are self-dissolving. Check the incision area daily for redness, swelling or discharge. Any problems directly related to the surgery will be treated and covered by the Fix Our Ferals Spay-Neuter Center under the following guidelines:

- o For any complications arising between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., Sundays, Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays, please call (510) 215-9300 to arrange for follow-up care.
- o For after hours emergencies, 6 p.m. to 8 a.m., or on days when the FOF Center is closed, please seek care at Pets Referral Center, 1048 University Ave, Berkeley CA (510) 548-6684. Please advise them when you arrive that the cat had surgery at Fix Our Ferals.