

TRURO VETERINARY HOSPITAL

165 Arthur Street
Truro, N.S. B2N 1Y3
(902) 893-2341

Home Care Instructions
For Dog Neuter Surgery

- Incision** 1. Check the incision every day. It should look better each day. If it looks red, swollen or irritated, please let us know. He may need to wear a **special collar** to keep him from bothering with it.
2. We need to schedule an appointment to have the incision re-checked in two weeks time. If there are stitches, we will remove them at that time. This appointment is no charge.
- Exercise** 1. Leash walking only until after the re-check appointment.
2. Keep him from rough housing with other pets or family members, tearing up and down stairs and jumping for the next two weeks. This means no Doggy Daycare, Puppy Parties, Agility, Flyball or any other activity which involves running, jumping and rough housing. He will need to be crated or confined if he insists on being too active. If he pulls the incision open, he will need to be put under another anesthetic to repair it **at your cost**, and he will need to follow these instruction for another two weeks.
- Food & Water** He has been offered food and water in hospital last night and this morning. He can eat his normal food in normal amounts. Hold off on the treats and specialties for a couple of days to let his stomach get used to food again.
- Bodily Functions** Your dog should not have any problems with urinating or defecating (peeing and pooping). His BM may be a little soft today, but if it persists he should be seen. Any vomiting would indicate that he should be seen.
- Bathing** 1. No baths or swimming until after the re-check appointment.
2. If he is going to be walking in long, wet grass, or through puddles, smear some petroleum gel (Vaseline) over the incision to keep it from getting wet.
- Pain Management** Meloxicam is sent home with all surgeries to manage post-op pain. It is a beef flavoured oral medication. Meloxicam is to be given once daily. The nurse discharging your dog will tell you when the next treatment is needed and how much he will need. You should only need this for 1-4 days. If your dog seems painful, vomits or refuses food, please call us.
- Raspy- breathing** Your pet may experience some irritation of the airway (trachea) following anesthesia. This can lead to raspy sounding breathing. It should resolve within a few days. If there is any coughing or discharge then you should contact the clinic immediately.

If you notice any of the following, be sure to call us at 893-2341:

1. red, irritated skin near the incision
2. any lumps near the incision line
3. any vomiting
4. diarrhea which persists past the first day home
5. not eating or drinking
6. extreme tiredness
7. if you have any questions or concerns