

Alter-Ations, Inc. CATsNIP Clinic

Post-Surgical Care Instructions

Notify your regular veterinarian if any of the following occurs:

- Loss of appetite for more than two days.
- Refusal to drink water for more than one day.
- Depression, lethargy, weakness or pain.
- Vomiting after the first 24 hours following surgery. Diarrhea for more than 24 hours.

Diet:

- Feed a small amount of canned food the evening of surgery to make sure it stays down.
- Feed regular diet in the morning after surgery.
- For cats/kittens under 5 pounds – provide a small amount of canned food (1 tablespoon) as soon as the cat returns home; then give an additional small amount 2 hours later.

Activity:

- Restrict exercise – try to restrict jumping on counters, etc. as much as possible for a few days.
- If the cat is an indoor/outdoor cat, do not release outdoors for at least 6 days.

Incision:

- Watch incision for swelling, redness or drainage. Do not apply anything to the incision.
- Do not allow excessive licking at the incision.
- Suture material for females is absorbable. It is buried and will dissolve. Males do not have stitches.
- Keep the incision and your pet clean and dry.
- Females will have a green tattoo to the left of or at the incision area. Let the surgical glue fall off.

Pain:

- Your cat has been medicated for pain with an injection that lasts for 24 hours.
- Do not give your pet any over the counter pain medicine. It is not safe for your pet.
- If you feel that your pet is exceptionally prone to painfulness, you can purchase additional medication for two days after surgery. The veterinarians especially recommend take-home pain meds for females.

Feral and Barn Cats:

- Must be kept at indoor temperatures (60-70 °F in winter; 70-80 °F in summer) for 24-48 hours before being released. The ideal confinement period is one week, but ONLY if the cat can be kept safely inside for a longer time without becoming a threat to you or itself. Stress may hinder recovery, so release may be preferable for some cats rather than keeping them in for a week after surgery.
- Be sure they are eating and drinking before being released.
- If the medical record indicates the cat is lactating, she should be released sooner, but ONLY after demonstrating completely normal behavior.

PLEASE CONSIDER A DONATION TO HELP US TO CONTINUE THIS SERVICE

The CATsNIP Clinic is a program of Alter-Ations, Inc., a local humane, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, Our programs are funded solely through donations and grants. Your donation, of any amount, is greatly appreciated and will allow us to continue to assist the pet guardians in our area.



_____ I would like to help this important effort and offer the following tax deductible donation:

_____ Amount of donation (check payable to Alter-Ations, Inc.) Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Street/City/State/Zip

315 E. Decker St, Suite B, Viroqua, WI 54665; 608-638-6887; www.catsnipclinic.org; alterationsinc@yahoo.com