



Dog Go-Home Instructions

For the next 24 to 48 hours, your dog will be recovering from the effects of anesthesia, which is what keeps a dog asleep and comfortable during surgery. This can make them dizzy, nauseated, disoriented or cold, so it's important that they have a safe, quiet and warm space to recover.

For the next 7 to 10 days, please reduce their activity as much as possible. That means short-leash walks only to go to the bathroom, no rough-housing, no off-leash play — nothing that makes it fun to be a dog. This is especially important with large, male dogs as they are at risk for scrotal hematoma, which is excessive bruising and swelling in the scrotum after the testicles are removed. Please be sure to have your dog wear their cone for 7 to 10 days after surgery to prevent licking. We have cones available for all sizes of male and female dogs, so if you would like a cone and did not purchase one at check-in, one of our technicians can assist you when you pick up your dog.

Also for the next 7 to 10 days, please keep an eye on your dog's incision to make sure that they're healing well. A little bit of pinkness, bruising or dried blood may be normal, but if you have any concerns, please call our vet line. That number is in bold and highlighted on the first page of your go-home packet. There are no stitches that need to be removed; they're all internal and absorbable, so you don't need a follow-up appointment for suture removal.

Tonight, offer your dog a small amount of food and water, or about half of their regular evening meal. Full meals can start tomorrow. We send all of our dogs home with three days of pain medication, which will start tomorrow morning. Please wrap each dose up in a small piece of cheese or meat, and give one dose every 24 hours every morning for the next three mornings, starting tomorrow. The medication we send home is great for pain, swelling and fever, but should be given with food, so please plan to give it with a meal. Do not give your dog any other type of over-the-counter or human pain medicine without calling our vet first. It can cause them to get sick.

Included in your go-home packet are your discharge instructions, information on any vaccines you may have requested for your dog, a certificate of sterilization or sterilization and vaccination, and information on any other conditions we may have found today.

Thank you for trusting MN SNAP with your dog!