



Red Lion Veterinary Hospital
1047 Red Lion Rd.
New Castle, DE 19720
302-834-2250

Taking Your Pet Home After Surgery

Your pet has been given anesthesia in order to perform the surgical or dental procedure you requested. Because of the action of the anesthesia on the stomach and the intestines, it is safest to withhold food from your pet until the day following the surgery. Food or water given the day of the surgery can cause vomiting! You may however, offer the animal ice cubes in a bowl, which will moisten the mouth without upsetting the stomach. Your pet's eating habits should be back to normal by the day after most surgeries.

Your pet will probably be a little unsteady on his/her feet following anesthesia. Please take care to support or carry him/her on steps, and leash-walk only the first evening. Reduced activity is recommended until the sutures are removed. Keep the surgical incision clean and dry.

A small amount of redness in the area of the surgical incision is normal. Excessive licking at the incision site could be a symptom of a problem or result in the sutures being prematurely removed. Also, if the incision should become very red, irritated, hot, swollen, or develop a discharge, please notify us.

If your pet has stitches, they will need to be removed 10-14 days following the surgery. Cat castrations do not require stitches. Please call us to arrange a convenient time. There is no charge for this service.

If you have any questions, please call 302-834-2250.
Thank you.