



## **Post-Operative Care – Abdominal Surgery**

Knowing what to do or expect after your pet has had surgery can be a challenging thing, therefore we have created this sheet to help you with some basic do's and don'ts for when you take your beloved pet home.

### **Care Information:**

- Do NOT give food or water to your pet for 5 hours after surgery. The anaesthetic can make them feel nauseous and we do not want them to vomit as this could cause them to choke.
- Do NOT overheat the car, your pet will lose body heat and will need to be kept warm but not excessively.
- Do keep the wound dry and clean, this will speed up the healing process and reduce the risk of any infection.
- Do attend your 3 - 5-day post op appointment and your 10 – 14 day if required, it is essential that we check them over.
- Speak to your vet regarding the stitches as they may be dissolvable and may not need to be removed.
- Avoid bathing them for 2 weeks post op.
- Do follow your veterinarian's advice regarding medication, this will be clearly labelled with instructions and you will be shown this on your animal's discharge.
- Do NOT allow them to exert themselves, limit exercise and do not allow them to jump for 4 weeks as this could cause the stitches to open and cause a hernia.

### **Signs to look out for:**

- Vomiting, diarrhoea, unwillingness to eat, excessive pain.
- Redness, green/yellow discharge, or foul odour from the stitches.
- Drowsiness that lasts longer than 24 hours post op.
- Pale gum colour..... if you press on the gums and let go the pink should return in less than 2 seconds

**If you have any concerns and need to speak to a veterinarian, please don't hesitate to contact us:**

**Telephone- 01902 766905. Email- [info@tudorhouseanimalcare.co.uk](mailto:info@tudorhouseanimalcare.co.uk)**

Should you have any concerns after our opening hours, please contact our out of hours vet on **01952253963 (Vets Now Telford)**