



Post-Operative Care Following BOAS Surgery

Your pet has undertaken major surgery; the following discharge sheet advises on what you need to be aware of once your pet returns.

Should you have any concerns after our opening hours, please contact our out of hours vet on **01952253963 Vets Now Telford (After 7pm weekdays, after 12pm on a Saturday and all day Sunday)**

Your pet has had one or more of the following procedures performed:

- Widening of the nostrils
- Removal of the tonsils
- Shortening +/- thinning of the soft palate
- Removal of laryngeal sacculles

What to do when your pet first comes home:

- The majority of patients are hospitalised over-night.

The vet may elect for this option once discussed with yourself and discharged the next day.

- Your pet may appear noisier in the first few days, this is common.

When surgery is performed there is always a degree of inflammation as the surgical site heals.

Medication Prescribed:

- Your pet will be discharged with the following medication – pain relief, gastro-protectants and antibiotics

Many of these are unlicensed and they are prescribed under the cascade.

You will be asked to sign a document consenting to their use.

- Some medication may be prescribed for several weeks.

Exercise Requirement:

- Keep your dog as quiet as possible.

Excitement, playing etc. is likely to increase panting and subsequently increase inflammation, making it more difficult for your pet to breath.

- If you are struggling to keep your pet calm, please discuss this with the vet.



Calming medication may be prescribed for the immediate post-operative period.

- Keep your pet away from other dogs in the house for the first week in case they get too excited, which can cause them to pant.
- Exercise should be kept to a minimum.

Use a harness only for no more than 10-15 minutes at a time for two weeks

- Take them to the toilet in the garden on their harness and lead

Gradually increase exercise after these two weeks

- Always use a Y front harness on your pet.

We recommend this long term in all brachycephalic breeds due to having smaller tracheas (windpipe)

A harness that comes straight across the front of the chest often applies pressure to the trachea.

Dietary Requirement:

- We advise feeding regular small amounts, 4-5 times a day.

Bland, soft food for the first few days following surgery.

- Generally, we advise feeding soft food rolled into meatballs such as chappie.
- Some pets prefer very soft food
- Supervise all feeds and the following 20-30 minutes after a feed for the first week.
- After 4-5 days post-surgery the normal diet can be gradually introduced

We advise soaking the kibble thoroughly and no hard food, treats or chew to be given for 2 weeks

- We do not advise raw food to be fed for the first 2 weeks following surgery while the oral incision heals

What signs to look out for:

- It is very common to see some blood from the nostrils following surgery.

This may become scabby as it heals.

The sutures used, although visible, are dissolvable and will fall out over the next 4-6 weeks.

- Although an increased noise is expected your pet should not be in distress.

If your pet appears to be struggling to breathe, panting or unable to settle, we advise you to contact the surgery and bring your pet to our out of hours practice as an emergency.



- If your pet has any of the following coughing up green phlegm, abnormal nasal discharge or seems to have laboured breathing we advise contacting the practice as they may have a respiratory infection.

Laboured breathing – chest/ abdomen making exaggerated movements as your pet breathes.

- If your pet has any vomiting, regurgitation, or lethargy we advise you contact the practice as soon as possible.

It is not uncommon for pets to have soft faeces following anaesthetics but if your faeces are liquid or do not firm up within a few days, please contact us.

Post-operative care and checks:

- We advise using our email address to send us a photo of your pet's nose and a video including sound of their breathing at 2 days and 2 weeks post-surgery.

A receptionist will pass this to the vet who will then reply.

If the vet would prefer to see your pet an appointment will be made.

- If you have any urgent concern regarding your pet, please contact us on

Telephone: 01902 766905 Email: info@tudorhouseanimalcare.co.uk

- We recommend that all dogs either stay here at Tudor House with a vet on call or they go to our out of hours provider which is Vets Now Telford.

If they stay at Tudor House this is included in our price however if you wish for your animal to go to our out of hours provider this will incur further costs.

When we perform BOAS surgery, we aim to improve your pet's quality of life. Many pets still have an element of breathing abnormalities. Unfortunately, we are restricted by their conformation. We still advise taking extreme care in the heat, keeping your pet at a lean weight and introducing exercise gradually to unfit pets