Post operative care for your dog after Laparoscopic Spay

Most dogs anaesthetised for routine neutering procedures go home the same day. Your dog should be able to walk, although she may be a little drowsy. You may be surprised how bright she is, but some special care may be needed.

When you get home, take your dog to her bed or favourite place and encourage rest. Keep her warm and offer a light meal if she appears interested in food. Do not worry if she does not want any, but this may help sleep. Ensure that water is near to her bed then leave her to rest.

First food should be a small meal of eggs, chicken or fish with pasta or rice, continued for 24 hours. A convenient recovery food pack is available for a low cost. Frequent small drinks of water should be offered.

There may be a clip mark on a foreleg where drugs were given intravenously. Sleepiness over the first evening is normal, but she should be bright the next morning, accepting food and not being sick.

She should be kept in for 24 hours apart from brief toilet visits into the garden.

For the next two days your dog should have gentle lead exercise only. Try to avoid energetic behaviour, e.g. jumping on chairs.

It is essential to check the site of the operation daily for any redness, swelling or oozing as well as behaviour changes. If your dog is worrying about the wound, e.g. licking, we can supply a collar, or t-shirt to prevent this happening.

Unless otherwise specified, dissolvable sutures will have been used which do not need to be removed.

Your dog will have been given painkillers prior to their operation. If the vet has prescribed further medication, please read the dosage carefully and complete the course of tablets.

Please arrange a post-operative appointment for seven days so we can monitor your dog's progress. If you are concerned about the wound prior to this, please contact the surgery.

If you have any questions about your dog's treatment, please feel free to ask any member of staff.