



Linnet Way
Brickhill
Bedford
Bedfordshire
MK41 7HN
Tel: +(0)1234 261 839
E: info@acornhousevets.co.uk

POST-OPERATIVE CARE

- Your pet's front leg may be shaved as this area is clipped and cleaned before the vet injects the anaesthetic. Your pet may also develop a cough after the anaesthetic due to irritation from a breathing tube or the anaesthetic gases. This should quickly clear up.
- Ensure your pet has access to fresh clean drinking water immediately on their return home. Provide an easily digestible diet for the first 24 hours following surgery.
- Keep your pet indoors for at least 24 hours following surgery, and ensure they are kept warm and dry. Your pet may feel drowsy following anaesthetic and they should not be left unattended.
- If your pet has undergone surgery involving stitches there may be slight oozing of blood from the wound. You should check your pet's wound at least once a day to make sure it is clean and dry. The wound should not bleed continuously. Restricted exercise during your pet's recovery period is important; you must keep your dog on a lead at all times until stitches have been removed.
- Your pet should not be allowed to chew or lick any wound. If your pet continues to do so, it may be necessary to fit a 'buster collar' to prevent self-trauma. An additional charge will be made for re-stitching any opened wounds. Please ring/revisit if you need a collar.
- If medication is prescribed for your pet it is very important that your pet finishes the course or they may not benefit from it.
- If you have any concerns, then you may contact the surgery for advice. Acorn House operates an emergency service run by our own team of vets and nurses and this is currently available 24 hours a day. From 1st June, after 11pm the emergency telephones will be taken by the team at the Queen Mother Hospital in Hatfield. Please telephone the usual number for Acorn House in the first instance and your call will be diverted to the appropriate team who can provide advice if you have any concerns regarding your pet.

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