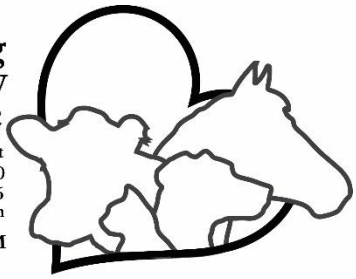
Caring for Your Pet
After General Anesthesia

Gooding Veterinary Clinic
238 Main Street
Gooding, ID 83330
(208)934-5626
GoodingVet@gmail.com
AMBER PARISH, DVM



The First Night

They may be sleepy and a little disoriented. They will not be able to regulate their body temperature very well. Keep them in a warm, safe, clean place where they can rest and be monitored. They should be back to their normal self by the next morning.

Feeding

On returning home they may not want to eat -that's okay. They should have their normal appetite the next morning though. If they do want to eat, feed only a small meal to prevent vomiting. Clean, easily accessed water should always be available to your pet.

Activity

Limit exercise. Pets that are more active after surgery tend to swell, ooze, and take longer to heal. They should not play roughly, jump, run, or be bathed for at least 2 weeks.

Sutures

If your pet has staples/sutures, they will need to be removed in 14 days. The doctor wants to see them at the time of suture removal to make sure each tissue layer has healed properly. Dissolvable sutures do not need to be removed. Make sure to keep them (and/or other pets) from licking the surgery area - they can lick the staples or dissolvable sutures out and cause infection. An "E-Collar" may need to be used until staples are removed or the dissolvable sutures have healed (10-14 days). Other ideas to help prevent licking include long or short sleeve t-shirt, no bite collars, donut collars, and medical clothing. Ask us if you'd like to try one of these options.

Check the suture area daily for swelling, redness, oozing/discharge, and pain. Check to be sure the skin edges are staying together, no gapping. Please call if any of these concerns are noticed. You can also text photos of the surgery site to Dr. Parish @ (208) 934-5626.

Please cool pack the surgery site for 5 minutes, 3x a day, for the first 5 days. This will decrease swelling and improve healing and comfort.

Medication/Treatment

Our doctor typically sends home pain and anti-inflammatory medications for recovery. If your pet still seems painful, please call! It is very important to our doctor that your pet is not painful.

It was a pleasure to care for your pet today! Please call if you have any questions.

Gooding Veterinary Clinic ♥ (208) 934-5626