

CATS NAP

Spay/Neuter Help for Low-income Families or Unowned Animals
P.O. Box 456, Savoy, IL 61874 – Voicemail: 217-353-5243

Discharge Instructions for Cats Following Sterilization

Your cat can be fed a very small meal (1-2 teaspoons canned food) following recovery from anesthesia after transport back to their home.

Your pet should be kept warm and dry by providing ample bedding material. Some animals may experience nausea and vomiting during transport (car sickness). This is to be expected and is not cause for concern.

Once back at home and settled in, they may be fed approximately 1/3 their normal ration. Water should be provided. They may be fed normally the following morning.

The first night home, your pet should be kept in a small, confined area where he or she can be easily monitored. The effects of anesthesia may cause grogginess, agitation, lethargy. By morning, your pet should be about 75% back to normal. After 24 hours, your pet should be eating, urinating, and defecating.

Incisions should be monitored daily to be sure they remain clean, dry and intact. Occasionally, a suture reaction or seroma may form within a few days of surgery. A suture reaction is a firm swelling along the incision. A seroma is a pocket of fluid at the incision. These will resolve in 1-2 weeks without treatment. If an incision opens (gaping wound) or if it appears red, painful or has a thick discharge, veterinary attention is warranted.

Please report any problems to CATSNAP at 217-353-5243. *YOU MUST LEAVE A VOICE MESSAGE.* As an all-volunteer organization, it may be several hours before the call is returned. If more immediate attention is needed, owners may take the pet *at his/her own expense* to a veterinary clinic.

If your animal chews or licks or bothers the incisions in any way, an e-collar (available at PETsMART or most veterinary clinics) should be purchased. Failure to do so can cause serious complications that will need to be treated at the owner's expense.

Post surgical complications are very unusual and cats should be expected to recover quickly. If your pet appears depressed for more than 2 to 3 days, they should be evaluated by a veterinarian. While CATSNAP assumes no liability for any complications, the group will do its best to assist owners will follow-up care.

As always, all patients should be provided with extra TLC!

Date of Sterilization and FVCRP: _____ Pet's Name: _____

Client's Name: _____

Keep this for your records as proof of surgery