



Canine Spay

A spay is the surgical sterilization of your dog by the removal of the ovaries, fallopian tubes, and uterus. Your dog has been put under anesthetic in order to have this surgery performed and therefore, it is important for you to understand the following information to ensure a safe and healthy recovery.

The Night of the Surgery: Your dog may be sleepy and a little disoriented, so please keep her inside where she can rest quietly and can't wander into danger. Allow her to rest undisturbed.

Eating and Drinking: Your dog may not feel like eating the night of surgery, this is normal. She will resume her normal eating/drinking schedule within 48 hours. If, however, she does seem interested in food and water, you may start with a small amount of water and $\frac{1}{4}$ the amount of food usually fed to her. Excessive eating and drinking just after surgery may upset her digestive system and cause her to vomit or have diarrhea.

Exercise: Do not engage your dog in intense exercise (hiking, running, rough play) for at least a week. Leash walking is encouraged as it will help the site heal quickly and without complications. No swimming for two weeks after surgery and if bathing is necessary avoid submerging incision site and dry it off completely.

Sutures: It is important to look at the incision site daily to ensure that there is no redness or swelling. If you notice redness, swelling, or your dog licking excessively at the incision site, please call us so we can offer suggestions to prevent her from irritating the site or causing an infection. All sutures are absorbable and will dissolve so there is no need to have them removed.

If she was in Heat: Your dog can still attract males for several days after surgery. It is important that you protect her from being bred after surgery as severe complications can arise if mated.