

BITCH SPAY

Your dog has been spayed today. This involves the surgical removal of her ovaries and womb, and is performed under a general anaesthetic in sterile conditions. Now that you have her home, the following procedures should ensure she feels more comfortable and aid a speedy recovery.

It is very likely that your dog will be drowsy once you have her home. She will probably relax in her home environment and rest comfortably for the remainder of the evening.

FOOD AND WATER

Food and water may be offered the same evening. Please feed a bland diet such as Royal Canin Sensitivity Control, or Hills I/d. Normal feeding routines can resume the next day. Slight sickness may occur, however if this persists please contact the surgery.

EXERCISE

No exercise is recommended for at least 24 hours after the operation, then lead exercise only for 10 days.

STITCHES

Try to prevent her licking the area excessively. It is advisable to use a Buster Collar.

- The stitches will need to be removed. Please bring her for a recheck in 3 days and 10 days time.
- The stitches will dissolve so do not need to be removed. Please bring her for a recheck in 3 days and 10 days time.

COUGHING

You may notice a slight cough over the next couple of days. Do not be alarmed – it is usually due to irritation at the back of the throat through intubation (a procedure used to keep the airway open during anaesthetic). If the coughing persists then consult the veterinary surgeon.

LONG TERM WEIGHT CONTROL

Once your dog has recovered and stitches have been removed, it is advisable to closely monitor her body weight. Spayed bitches are susceptible to gains in weight. Adjustments in feeding may be necessary to prevent this becoming a problem. Your dog will be invited back in 6 months time for a free of charge weight check.