



Southside Animal Hospital

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Griffin, GA 30224
770-228-2595



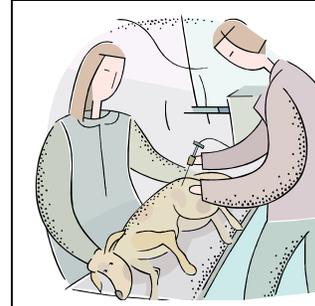
How To Care For Your Pet After An FHO

Your dog has had a Femoral Head Ostectomy. In this surgery we removed the neck and head of the femur. The hip joint will heal back to form a "false joint." Small animals heal with almost no noticeable limp. Large dogs sometimes may have a slight limp. To have ideal healing, you must perform the appropriate after care. Recovery usually takes 6 weeks. Doing the following things decrease the chance of complications.

Exercise You should restrict your pet's activity for 6 weeks following the surgery to allow your pet to heal properly. Your pet cannot run, jump, play, or do any vigorous exercise for 6 weeks. **Your pet must be confined to a small area when you are not present, be carefully monitored when you are there to avoid the above activities, and must be leash walked when outside.** Give your pet slow leash walk for 15 minutes two times a day. This will get your pet used to using the leg again and prevent muscle atrophy in the leg.

Monitoring the Incision

You should check the incision at least one time a day. You should monitor it for swelling, bleeding, redness, oozing fluid, or separation of the incision. You should bring any of these to our attention. If your pet has sutures, look to make sure they are still present.



Licking Some pets lick at their incisions. This can cause complications. Alert us if your pet is licking. In this event, an Elizabethan collar needs to be placed on the dog to avoid complications.

Other Complications

Also monitor your pet for depression, vomiting, diarrhea, or not eating. Alert us if you notice any of these signs.

Pre-Operative Blood Work

Normal _____ Abnormal _____ Not Performed _____
Comments _____

Sutures

Return for suture removal in 10 to 14 days _____
Suture removal not needed because sutures below the skin _____

Pain Medicine

Your pet was given an injection after surgery to help control pain. You have been give medicine to give to your pet to help control pain during recovery. Start this medication _____.

Additional Comments _____

