



# Lone Star Veterinary Surgical Specialists

## Surgical Solutions for Your Loved Pets

### Postoperative Care: Perianal/Rectal Surgery

Your pet has had surgery to correct or remove an abnormality associated with the anus or rectum. The nerves and muscles that allow the anus to function properly can be temporarily irritated by any surgical manipulation in the perianal region, and it is not uncommon for pets to experience at least temporary stool incontinence (i.e. dropping stool unintentionally) after surgery. Fortunately for most patients, this improves with time. For other patients, this abnormality can be somewhat diminished with low fiber diets and liberal access to appropriate “bathroom” areas.

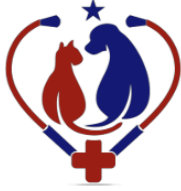
Immediately after surgery there may be some bruising or swelling around the surgical site, but this should continue to improve daily. Your pet must be kept confined and have restricted exercise for 2 weeks after surgery. The incision should appear clean and dry, with skin edges well apposed and no redness or discharge from the site evident. Do not bathe your pet until sutures are removed 2 weeks after surgery.

#### Exercise/Activity Restrictions:

1. Your pet should be kept in an enclosed area like a kennel or small bathroom/laundry room at all times, aside from short **leashed** walks for potty breaks for 2 weeks after surgery.

#### Incision:

1. Monitor the incision daily for signs of infection: redness, swelling, pain or discharge. Some mild swelling and bruising after surgery is expected, but should continue to improve daily while healing.
2. Do **NOT** allow licking of the incision as this could cause an infection or open the incision. An Elizabethan collar (cone) should be kept on your pet at all times for at least 2 weeks until the sutures are removed.
3. If needed after a bowel movement, you can **gently** clean the area with warm water and pat dry with a clean paper towel.



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### Medications/Diet:

1. Please give medications as directed by your veterinarian - this may include stool softeners like lactulose or Miralax, antibiotics, or pain medications.
2. Feed as directed by your veterinarian - sometimes pets require adjustments to their normal diet following surgery like additional fiber, or low-residue diets depending on the condition.

### Follow-up:

1. Recheck to evaluate surgical site and remove sutures in 10-14 days

If you have any questions or concerns during your pet's recovery, please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you for letting Lone Star Surgical Specialists take care of you and your pet!