



DENTAL RECOVERY FORM

FOOD/WATER

- Offer normal amounts of water.
- To avoid stomach upset from anesthesia, do not offer food right away to adult animals, as they will vomit.
- After approximately 3 hours you may offer small amounts of food. Start with offering $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of the normal amount, but do not be concerned if your pet does not want to eat right away, as anesthesia can sometimes make them nauseous.
- Your pet's mouth will be sore after surgery, please offer soft food for 48 hours after surgery (mixing water or low-sodium broth in their normal hard food will work fine). After this time, your pet may continue with his/her normal diet.
- If vomiting occurs, remove food until morning (but keep water available).

MEDICATION

- Your pet received an injectable pain medication, which lasts for 12 hours. You will need to start the pain medication approximately 12 hours after surgery. In most cases, this means starting them the next morning.
- Please start the antibiotics in the evening the day of the dental.
- Do not mix any other pain medications with the anti-inflammatory that was sent home.
- Please finish giving all the medications that were sent home.

MONITORING

- Keep your pet in a confined area away from other pets and children for the rest of the day. Rest and sleep are essential for healing!
- If your pet is sleeping a lot 24 hours after surgery, this is normal. Allow them to rest.
- Older pets usually take longer to get the anesthesia out of their system, so longer recoveries are expected. They can remain sleepy/tired for a few days after surgery/anesthesia.

WHAT'S NORMAL

- There may be blood in your pet's water bowl for a few days after the dental. This is normal. Please call if you believe there is any excessive bleeding.
- Shaking is normal the evening after surgery. Providing a warm quiet place to rest will help alleviate shaking.
- The breathing tube can cause minor windpipe irritation resulting in post-surgical gagging or coughing. If these symptoms last more than a few days, please call me.
- Sleeping a lot!

If you are unsure about your pet's recovery or have any questions, please call me as I am happy to help! 406-344-3215