

Rose Cottage Veterinary Centre
Chester Road, Sutton Weaver, Runcorn. Cheshire. WA7 3EQ

Telephone 01928 717581



Post-Operative Care for your Small Furrries

You have just collected your Rabbit, Guinea Pig or Rat after it has had surgery here at Rose Cottage Veterinary Centre.

The Vet/Nurse should have just gone through all the details and instructions that you need to know after the procedure. We appreciate that it is sometimes difficult to remember all the information you have been given. We bet you were just so glad to see your furry friend! With that in mind, we have also provided you with these post-operative instructions that you can refer back to, now that you're back home.

AS SOON AS YOU'RE HOME

When you get home, place your pet in their freshly clean cage, in a warm and quiet environment. Being in a clean cage is important, not only to keep any wound clean, but to be able to monitor the output of faecal pellets closely. If faecal output slows or stops after surgery, this could be a sign that your pet may be suffering from gut stasis which needs immediate attention. Symptoms of gut stasis may include, having no appetite, fewer or no faeces, hunched or bloated appearance, lethargy and teeth chattering/grinding. To reduce the risk of this, it is important to get your pet eating normally as soon as possible and avoiding situations that may cause them stress. Try feeding them their favourite treats, nuggets, fresh fruit and veg, freshly pulled grass and hay to get their stomachs moving. *If your pet hasn't eaten ANYTHING within 6-12 hours of surgery, please contact the surgery.*

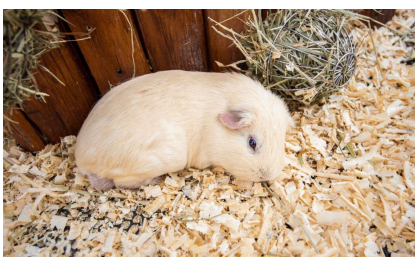


Offer your pet a bowl of water, even if a water bottle is usually used. Your pet needs to drink after surgery, but often won't do so if he/she has to 'work' for their water. They will recover more quickly if they are well hydrated. There is no need to separate bonded pairs or groups as long as they interact calmly.

Your pet will likely have been given a painkiller following their operation today. If the vet has prescribed further medication, please read the dosage carefully and complete the full course as required.

THE FOLLOWING FEW DAYS

Keep your pet quiet for a few days after surgery, limiting handling time where appropriate, but try to maintain normal habits and routine as much as possible. This kind of familiarity will help reduce stress in small animals, therefore aiding the healing process. Ensure you are checking any surgical wounds TWICE a day but more frequently during warm weather due to increased risk of fly strike. In the vast majority of cases, your pet will have been given dissolvable sutures which do not need removal. Your vet will advise you if this is not the case. Monitor your pets behaviour and if they are bothering with the wound in any way, please speak to your vet. It's very important to keep all living areas clean, especially during recovery to encourage good healing.



Unless advised otherwise, the Vet would like to see a photo of any wound, seven days post-op to check the healing process is going nicely. Please send one or two clear pictures of the wound to our email address: receptionrosecottagevets@gmail.com

If you have any questions about your pets surgery or recovery, please don't hesitate to give us a call!