**Post-Operative Care Sheet for your Dog**

Please note your dog will have had a general anaesthetic today and may be drowsy when you get home. This is normal after a general anaesthetic. It is important that you dog is kept indoors for 48hrs to recover. They should be back to normal within 24-48 hours, but will need to be kept quiet and warm this evening. Water should be available at all times.

A small area of hair may have been clipped from one or more of your dogs leg and/or neck, don’t worry this will soon grow back. This is to allow for the administration of the anaesthetic, and for the collection of blood samples if needed. Anaesthesia usually involves placing a breathing tube in the windpipe and occasionally this may cause a little irritation afterwards. You may also notice slight coughing, but this should not persist for more than a day or so.

Please keep an eye on wounds or dressings. If you notice any problems such as swelling, discharge or redness of the wound, or the dressing has slipped or appears to be uncomfortable please contact the surgery for further advice. Dressings should be kept clean and dry at all times. **It is important that your dog does not interfere with any wounds or dressings***.* Excessive licking can slow down wound healing and introduce infection. Avoid submerging the wound in water or allowing your dog to swim until the wound is fully healed or the Vet has said otherwise. If necessary contact the surgery and we can provide you with a special collar to prevent this happening at an additional cost.

If medication has been dispensed it should be given as directed and started the morning following surgery, unless otherwise stated.

**Feeding**

Later this evening your dog may want food and water. A small easily digestible meal (e.g. chicken, white fish) should be offered.

#### Aftercare

**Please make an appointment for your pet to have a re-examination 7 days after the operation. The vet may advise that you can send a photo to our email address to avoid the need for you to bring your pet in.** Dogs should be restricted to the garden until re-examination unless instructed otherwise. Skin sutures, if they have been used, will need to be removed 7-10 days after the operation.

If you have any concerns or queries please do not hesitate to contact the surgery