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Discharge Instructions For: _____ Date: _____

Procedure Performed: _____

Please note: If your pet was placed under general anesthesia, it is important to note that your pet may not be his or her “normal” self for the next 12-24 hours. This means that your pet may appear depressed, lethargic, and/or show no interest in normal activity or diet during this time.

***Do NOT give your pet over-the-counter pain medications such as Tylenol or Ibuprofen as these can be TOXIC! ***

Medications:

1. _____ Next Dose _____
2. _____ Next Dose _____
3. _____ Next Dose _____

Food & Water:

- Restrict access to food for the first 6 hours after discharge from the hospital, then feed small amounts.
- Small amounts of water are okay to offer after discharge from the hospital.
- Specific feeding instructions, if applicable, are noted at the bottom of this form.
- If your pet came in for a dental, and extractions were performed, you may soften your pet’s food with warm water.

Activity:

- Minimize activity for 5-7 days. No jumping or running, as this could cause sutures to rupture.
- Minimize activity for 3 days. No jumping or running, as this could cause sutures to rupture.
- Activity should be limited to leash walks only, for use of the bathroom, for the specified duration.

Sutures:

- Sutures are dissolvable
- Sutures need to be removed
- No baths for the next 10 days, or until sutures have been removed

Initial _____

Discourage licking or chewing at the sutures or incision site. Check the incision daily for swelling, redness, or discharge. If you notice any of these conditions, please call the hospital as soon as possible to have your pet rechecked.

E-collars are available for your pet at an additional charge. This is highly recommended to keep your pet from getting to the sutured area.

Drains & Hot Packing:

Drains are placed in contaminated areas to let fluid drain from a wound. The drainage flows out from under the skin around the drain tubing. It is very important to keep the exit holes clean and open so that proper drainage may occur. You can clean the area with either warm water or hydrogen peroxide.

It helps drainage if you hot pack the wound area with a warm washcloth (or warm compress) for 5 min, 2-3 times a day, until the drain is removed.

Bandages:

It is very important to keep the bandage clean and dry. When your pet goes outside to use the bathroom, cover the bandaged area with a plastic bag. If the bandage becomes wet, soiled, develops an odor, or your pet starts chewing at it, call the hospital as soon as possible to have your pet rechecked.

Your Pet Needs:

- Drain removal in 4-5 days
- Suture removal in 10-14 days
- Bandage change/check /removal in _____ days
- A recheck in _____ day
- Yesterday's News cat litter for 10 days post- declaw (this reduces the opportunity for infection to occur)

Medical Notes/Important Information:

Call Pou Veterinary Group, at (305) 598-1425, if you notice any of the following:

Vomiting or diarrhea

Refusal to eat, greater than 24-48 hours post-surgery

Severe bleeding

Bleeding or pus from incision site

Continuous licking or biting at incision site

Initial _____