**Home Care for Spay/Neuter**

**Food/Water**

No food until the following morning.

Small amounts of water at a time. Do not allow patient to gorge themselves on water.

**Exercise**

Restrict activity and discourage from jumping/running for 10-14 days.

Leash walk if necessary.

**Anesthetics**

Every pet recovers from anesthesia at a different rate. Some pets are back to normal within 24 hours, while others may take as long as 2-3 days to fully recuperate.

**Bleeding**

Sometimes a small amount of bleeding may occur at the spay incision site. This happens because of blood “pooling” underneath the skin. A few drops of blood followed by cessation are normal. If bleeding continues, call the doctor for instructions.

**Licking**

Pets will often lick the incision site. This is usually due to itching caused by being closely shaven. If you notice your pet licking, they will need a code. If you feel a problem is developing, please call the doctor. In most cases, there are no external sutures and sutures are absorbable under the skin.

**NOTIFY THE DOCTOR FOR THE FOLLOWING**

* Vomiting after 24 hours
* Diarrhea
* Refusal to eat after 24 hours
* Severe pain
* Continuous licking or pulling at the sutures
* If there is a change in your pet’s general health or behavior