

**Alta-View Animal Hospital**  
**690 Showers Dr. Mountain View, CA 94040**  
**(650) 948-1021**

**Homecare Instructions For The Post-Operative/Post-Anesthesia/Post-Sedation Patient**

During your pets convalescence your pet will need special care. Please watch your pet carefully to avoid problems.

1. Offer water in  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup amounts (depending on your pets size) until your pet no longer drinks it at all. When thirst is quenched return to the usual free choice water (usually by two hours after home, if not sooner.)
2. Offer food, about one quarter to one-half the usual amount and nothing too rich. Offer the second half two to eight hours later. By the next day you may feed normally.
3. If external (skin) surgery has been performed, do not let your pet lick or scratch incisions. Take note of how the surgery site looks when you pick your pet up from the hospital. If your pet does start to lick or scratch, wrap the area (using a handkerchief, dish towel, stretchy T-shirt, sock, etc.) and call us. If your pet has shown any tendency to lick or chew at sores or incisions, please ask us for an E-collar.
4. Restrict exercises to all post anesthesia patients. Increased motion may delay healing and increase the likelihood of complications. Remember, your pet will be convalescing for approximately 7 to 14 days.
5. The effects of sedatives and tranquilizers can last for a few hours to a few days. Variations occur due to age, fat and metabolism, just as they do in people. If your pet seems sleepy or disoriented, protect your pet from falling off furniture, down stairs, etc. Be sure your pet is in a quiet place, away from the activities of the household, and keep young children away from your pet until your pet is back to normal.
6. If an emergency develops after-hours, call the emergency clinic **(650) 494-1461**. Report immediately anything that does not seem normal to you: swelling, tenderness, lethargy, poor appetite, bleeding, etc.
7. In the case of extractions or oral surgery, a slight tinge of blood in the water bowl after drinking water may be expected. If in doubt, give us a call!

Dr. Paul Ghumman