

Post Operative Care – Laryngeal Tie Back Surgery

Name : **Date:**

This information sheet is to help guide you through your pets recovery and some of the long term changes to expect.

Your pet has had a major procedure to treat laryngeal paralysis. The procedure involves permanently fixing one side of the larynx in an open position. This procedure should improve your pets breathing and exercise tolerance, and so his/her quality of life.

The increased risk of aspiration pneumonia (Fluid or food going into the airway) remains post surgery so your pet will require close supervision during his/her recovery.

We are now happy that your pet is comfortable and ready to go home with oral medication.

Medication :

Anti-inflammatory:

Give with or after food. Please stop if any vomiting or diarrhoea develops. contact your vet.

Antibiotics :

Post operation care instructions

- Your pet needs to be kept calm, quiet and prevented from getting too warm, to prevent excessive panting.
- Exercise must be strictly controlled lead exercise for the first month post surgery.
- NEVER use a neck collar, please use a harness to walk your dog.
- Post operative checkups with the veterinary surgeon are due at 3 and 10 days post surgery. Further checkups maybe suggested depending on recovery status. The stitches will be removed 10 -14 days.
- There will be a small wound on the underside of the neck, it is important to inspect this wound regularly. Please prevent your pet from scratching the wound.

Some swelling is expected for the first 1 – 5 days, this should reduce slowly over the next 2 weeks. A cold compress can be applied 3- 4 times a day for 10 – 15 minutes, this will help reduce the initial swelling (Frozen bag of peas wrapped in a towel works well).

If any swelling increases or you notice any redness or discharge from the wound please call the surgery immediately.

- Feeding your pet should be supervised initially. Please avoid dusty dry foods if your dog is usually fed a dry food, please soak or add some moist diet, rolling into balls/chunks may help or feeding from a raised surface initially.
- Water should be offered from a raised surface as for feeding. Please offer small amounts at a time to prevent from guzzling during the initial recovery period.
- Coughing after eating and drinking may be expected for the initial 4-6 week period post surgery. This should improve with time, please supervise your pet closely when feeding.
- Try to avoid times of excitement and excessive barking during the first month of healing.
- Keep your pet in a cool well ventilated environment wherever possible. Fans are a good way to cool your pet and allow good air circulation.
- Avoid dusty environments.
- Be advised that if swimming dogs may remain at an increased risk of getting water into their lungs, swimming may best be avoided
- Your dog will most likely lose his/her voice and not be able to bark again. Some raspy noises may persist after the surgery as only one side of the larynx is fixed back.
- Please consult your veterinary surgeon if coughing persists or any raspy sounds seem to worsen.

Please do not hesitate to contact the surgery should you have any concerns or questions.

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