

# Post Dental Instructions

Today your pet received an exam, sedation, and anesthesia to have its teeth cleaned. A thorough dental cleaning can only be achieved while the pet is under general anesthesia. Anesthesia keeps your pet free of pain during the dental procedure and allows the veterinarian to fully inspect the teeth. The tartar can then be properly removed from the teeth. At this time, the doctor evaluates the teeth to see if there are any extractions that are recommended. If teeth are extracted, the final cleaning is then completed. The teeth are then polished. This leaves a smoother surface on the teeth, which discourages plaque and bacteria from attaching to the rough tooth surface. Polishing the teeth also helps remove staining, and helps brighten teeth.

## Post Operative Care Instructions:

### What to expect once you get your pet home

#### Possible Cough

During the anesthetic period, your pet was closely monitored by one of our team members. Your pet was maintained on anesthesia by a gas called Isoflurane. For this reason, there was an endotracheal tube placed. This tube was placed to help maintain an open airway, and to keep your pet sleepy during the procedure. It also prevents choking on water during the cleaning. Sometimes the tube can cause some throat irritation. Your pet may have a cough for a couple days. If this cough persists for more than 3 days, or seems to get worse, please contact our office.

#### Common Side Affects of Anesthesia

**Mild Lethargy (seems more tired than usual):** It is normal for patients to be tired up until the night after their procedure. Most pets should have normal energy levels the following morning. If your pet continues to be lethargic, please call our office.

**Possible Nausea:** Some patients may experience post procedure/anesthetic nausea. For this reason, we recommend restricting food intake until the morning after his/her procedure. Please contact our office if the inappetence or vomiting extends past 24 hours.

#### When to feed your pet

Anesthesia can make your pet feel very nauseous. It takes about 24 hours for the anesthesia to work its way out of your pets system. For this reason, we recommend waiting to feed your pet until the morning after your pets dental. It can be very dangerous for your pet to vomit during the recovery process. Please do offer your pet a small amount of water at home. Just a few licks at a time.

#### What to feed your pet

1. If your pet had no extractions, feed your pet its normal diet.
2. If your pet had extractions, we recommend a diet of soft food for 3-5 days. This will allow time for your pets mouth to heal. You can moisten your pets regular diet by soaking it in water before offering it to your pet for its meal. This way your pet will not get an upset stomach by having a sudden diet change.

**Please follow all medication instructions if indicated**



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