



## POST OPERATIVE CARE for CAT SPAYS

Patient ..... Date .....

Your cat has received a general anaesthetic and is likely to be quiet and subdued for 24–48 hours.

- **Wound care** - Please ensure that your cat does not lick or chew her wound, as this could cause pain or delay healing. If licking persists, please use the Elizabethan collar provided. If unused, the collar can be returned and refunded at your cat's post-operative check.
- **Feeding** - Your cat may be fed a light meal this evening. A suitable diet is provided by the surgery or you can prepare a homemade meal of chicken or white fish. Occasionally, after an anaesthetic, cats may lose their appetite and/or be sick. If this continues for more than 24 hours or you are concerned, please contact the surgery.
- **Exercise** - Please keep your cat indoors, with a litter tray, until your vet has checked the wound. Try to keep her calm and where possible avoid her jumping onto furniture.
- **Clipping** - A small area of fur will have been clipped from one or both forelegs where the anaesthetic was injected. The operation site will also have been clipped.
- **Coughing** - Your cat may have a dry cough for a few days after surgery. This could be because a tube was put down her throat allowing her to breathe during the anaesthetic. If the cough persists or causes distress, please contact the surgery for advice.
- **Pain Relief** - Your cat has received a painkilling injection that lasts for at least 48 hours. Most cats do not require any further painkillers. If you are concerned that your cat appears uncomfortable, please contact the surgery.
- **What to watch for** - Check the wound daily for signs of swelling, discharge or redness. If concerned, please contact the surgery.
- **IN AN EMERGENCY** - Once home, if worried, please do not hesitate to contact us. We have nurses on duty 24 hours a day at the main hospital premises – Tel: **01903 234866**

Your cat needs to be re-examined in ..... days time. Please make sure you have an appointment. Sutures due to be removed in .....days.

**ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS (see over the page)**