



## WeSNiP POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR CATS

- YOUR CAT MUST BE KEPT INDOORS **for a minimum of 24 hours for males and 48 hours for females** (or longer, if possible) where it can stay clean, dry and warm.
  - o Best to confine to a warm, dry, quiet & stress-free smaller room/area (EVEN if they are exclusively outdoor cats) as they can't regulate their body temperature after surgery. If necessary, leave in carrier another hour at home, then re-evaluate.*
  - o Pets in same household may not recognize each other right away, so best to not interact with other pets or small children, especially the first 24 hours post-op or keep a very close eye (don't want to irritate incision with play or grooming time).*
- OFFER YOUR CAT FOOD AND WATER ONCE IT IS HOME.
- CHECK YOUR PET'S INCISION DAILY. KEEP INCISION CLEAN & DRY.
- DO NOT ALLOW YOUR PET TO EXCESSIVELY LICK OR CHEW THE INCISION.
- Unless you are told otherwise, YOUR PET DOES NOT HAVE EXTERNAL SUTURES.
- DO NOT GIVE HUMAN PAIN MEDICINE** as it can be fatal to your pet. No topical antibiotic ointment on the surgical site unless directed by staff.
- All cats that have surgery at NOAH have been tattooed with a small green mark on their abdomen to indicate that they have been spayed or neutered.

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**If your cat is experiencing any of the following symptoms, contact your own family vet or closest animal emergency clinic** (*see back page*). You can also email [yeswesnip@gmail.com](mailto:yeswesnip@gmail.com) or send a message to WeSNiP's Facebook page:

- Pale gums
- Discharge or bleeding from the incision
- Depression
- Difficulty urinating
- Vomiting
- Labored breathing
- Diarrhea

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**IF AN EMERGENCY:** Call your own family vet or closest animal emergency clinic (see back page).

**FOR A NON-EMERGENCY:** call the **NOAH Center, Spay & Neuter clinic** at **(360) 629-7055** (8:00am-5pm, daily) or the **WeSNiP mainline** at **(360) 733-6549** (Mon-Thurs, 10am-2pm).

# EMERGENCIES

**Please note:**

**Any costs incurred for additional services are at your own expense.**

**If your pet develops any of the following, *seek immediate veterinary help.***

**Call the closest emergency clinic.**

**(Animal Emergency Care (open 24/7))** is located at  
4176 Guide Meridian (between Kellogg Rd & Bakerview) Bellingham WA 98226  
**Phone:** 360-758-2200)

**If they ask you to bring the animal in, take the Spay/Neuter Certificate with you.**

- The incision is completely open (gaping) and/or tissue is protruding
- Pet has been waking up normally, and now is non-responsive (does not acknowledge your presence or respond to his or her name, etc.). When aroused, your pet should open eyes or lift head in response to stimulus.
- Anything more than a small amount of bleeding (more than a few drops) from the incision or vulva (female genitals)
- Pale white or yellow gums (check gum color by pressing your thumb against gum and releasing. The spot should initially look white, but turn pink as blood returns. Remaining white can indicate excessive bleeding somewhere in the animal)
- Excessive swelling of the face or excessive, continuous vomiting (can be allergic reaction)
- Difficulty breathing and/or blue color to the tongue or gums.