

## **Post-Anesthesia Home Care Dental Information**

### **Immediate Home Care Following a Dental Procedure:**

Your pet may return home sleepy and quiet following the anesthetic procedure. This is not unusual following as it takes time for all the anesthetic medications to wear off. It is often wise to confine them to a small area until they are completely back to normal and do not allow them to roam freely outdoors unsupervised. It is also wise to separate them from other pets and children until they are fully normalized.

### **Feeding:**

You may offer a light meal about two hours after returning home. Ideally, a third to a half of their usual size meal.

Your pet may not have a bowel movement for 1-2 days following the procedure. Anesthesia can slow the GI tract down a bit and they also missed a meal in preparation for the anesthesia. Once they are eating normally and active again, this should normalize.

### **After Extractions:**

Please soften the food for 7-10 days. If using dry food, soak it in warm water for 20 minutes prior to feeding.

You may notice a bit of drooling or blood-tinged saliva from the mouth. This should dissipate within 24-48 hours. We are happy to recheck <animal> if you are concerned.

Give all pain medications as instructed even if your pet seems fine. They cannot tell us they have a toothache, so we need to be pro-active about controlling any pain they could have after an extraction or surgical procedure.

Avoid tooth brushing, dental wipes, chews, rawhides or abrasive toys for a full 2 weeks. Avoid hard chew toys at all times due to the potential to fracture teeth.



If you have any questions regarding your pet's procedure, feeding or potential discomfort, please do not hesitate to call us (727-785-6524).

Recheck:

Based on the current findings of the dental exam and x-rays, we will recommend when your pet should return for the next dental exam or the next full dental cleaning, assessment, and radiographic evaluation.

Please see the dental home care sheet [here](#) for various options for home treatment to improve their dental health between professional cleanings.