

## **GENERAL HOME CARE INSTRUCTIONS**

Never hesitate to call Grand Pet Care Center's office 800-FOR-A-VET if you don't understand the instructions. Here are some typical home care instructions and why it is important to follow them:

### **1. Medication/Pharmacy Instructions**

Read all instructions on the bottle and/or in the written instructions if you are unsure, please call for clarification. 800-FOR-A-VET

Also, if it appears your pet's condition is not improving or you think the medicine isn't working, consult with your veterinarian before increasing the amount or frequency of dose. Increased doses could be harmful to your pet.

### **2. Restrict Activity**

This is a tough one, but can be vitally important. Fractured bones, deep or large cuts, stitches, neurological problems, etc. are all conditions that may require one or more days of confinement for your pet so that healing can take place.

If your pet gets too active too quickly, there is a greater possibility of added injury or longer healing time. A crate, small room with a door, or quiet companion can all help to keep your pet from getting too rowdy.

### **3. Bandage Instructions**

- Keep the bandage clean and dry.
- Check the bandage for slippage, loosening, pain, limping, bleeding, heat, foul odor, etc.
- Check for rubbing or pressure sores at the top or bottom of the bandage/cast.
- Keep your pet from chewing at the bandage.
- The bandage should be checked by a Veterinarian in 3-5 days to reassess the wound and decide if the bandage needs to be replaced.

### **4. Elizabethan Collar or E-Collar**

We like to call them their "party hat"! Not many pets like their party hat, but it is important to keep it on. Pets have a propensity for chewing on bandages or ripping out sutures if left with access to the wound. They may also try to lick a painful area excessively, which can aggravate and cause additional problems. So, the longer they can wear the party hat, the better.

### **5. Diet Restrictions or Changes**

Often, if a Pet comes in for vomiting and diarrhea and our Veterinarian will recommend restricting access to food or water for a short period. This can help the pet feel better and can also be an indication of underlying causes should the conditions continue. Other types of diet changes may include feeding a bland diet of rice or boiled chicken or perhaps adding some sort of fiber to the diet. These instructions are important and should be followed as close as possible.

### **6. Re-check**

Grand Pet Care is here to help with all your Pets follow-up care. Re-checks and bandage changes are important to ensure a safe and full recovery or to find out sooner than later that maybe additional or different medications are needed or that the wound needs additional care. Be sure to get back to us and set up your re-check.

