POST SURGICAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR RABBIT SURGERY-RAMONA ANIMAL CLINIC

Today your rabbit has undergone a routine but major surgery (females have an ovariohysterectomy and males undergo a castration). The next 24 hours are critical in the recovery and you, as an owner, assume an observer’s role.

Some of the rabbits will appear sleepy from the lingering effects of the anesthetic, but the activity level usually fully returns by the next day.

You can leave your rabbit in its carrier if it is large enough to allow movement and has room for food and water. Otherwise, where it is usually hutchted is probably best. Do not place in drafts or direct sun. You will need to observe for pellet droppings and eating. If you are using cat litter in the litter box replace it with shredded paper for 24 hours to avoid accidental wound contamination.

We already offered a snack of the food you brought but after arriving home, offer the rabbit a little of its favorite food and water. Some will eat; some won't. Try again the next morning with fresh offerings. It is very critical that the rabbit gets back to eating. If not eating after 48 hours, you may need to force feed some spinach, carrots, etc.

If your rabbit is a male, there are no sutures to remove. Swelling to the size of "before" the neuter can be expected. It should not be open or terrible reddened. Do not let him rejoin his companions for 7 days. *Note: if two unneutered males are together they will fight by attempting to castrate each other.

If your rabbit is a female, she will have 3-4 tiny wire sutures. Rabbits tolerate them very well. The area should be dry and not terrible reddened. After 10 days, the stitches should be removed We will remove them for you at no charge but before you bring your female rabbit in for suture removal, take a look and make sure the rabbit didn't remove them already, Often times the do.

We do recommend you look briefly each day, for 3-5 days, at the surgery site and make sure it looks normal If it does not give us call at (951) 654-3110

If an emergency arises after surgery (that is a life-threatening condition), call us first at 951-654-3110. If we are not available we recommend calling/visiting Emergency Pet Clinic of Temecula 951-695-5044

Emergency care (after hours) can usually be avoided by close daily observation of your pet.