

Hahira Veterinary Clinic

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Hahira, GA 31632

(229)794-0040

POST-DENTAL CARE INSTRUCTIONS

POST PROCEDURE

Your pet has had an anesthetic procedure today and may still feel a little **groggy**. If he or she prefers to sleep or to avoid human contact, respect that. By tomorrow things should be back to normal.

First try a few **licks of water**. Then, one hour later feed lightly-**approximately 1/3 of a usual meal**. If an animal eats or drinks too fast, he/she could vomit. If the small amount is tolerated, you may feed a little more and put down a small amount of water in an hour or so. By evening, you should be able to go back to regular feeding and watering.

Some pets may develop a slight dry **cough** after anesthesia (especially dogs). This results from an irritation of the trachea (windpipe) by the tube inserted in the trachea to allow your pet to breathe the oxygen and anesthetic mixture. Most coughs are gone in a couple of days, and don't affect the animal's activity. If a cough seems excessive or there seems to be breathing difficulty, please call the office.

It is normal for the **gums to be a little sensitive** for a few days. Soft foods may be necessary. However, if your pet wants to eat hard food, that is okay (unless otherwise instructed by the doctor). The saliva may have a pinkish tinge for a day or two if the gums were irritated and bled a little. This is especially true if teeth were extracted. If your pet seems to be bleeding excessively, please call the office.

Post-operative pain meds dispensed will not only alleviate associated pain but will also help with the healing process. Dispensed antibiotics are necessary to eliminate associated oral and systemic bacterial infection.

MAINTENANCE

- 1.) **Enzadent Oral Care Chews:** A chew for dogs and cats that combines naturally occurring enzymes that help regulate the microbiological balance of the oral cavity with the natural abrading action of beef hide to aid in the removal of plaque and to prevent the build-up of tartar-forming bacteria.
- 2.) **Science Diet/Hills Prescription Diet T/D :** Clinically proven to reduce gingivitis and buildup of plaque, stain and tartar. unique kibble shape cleans the tooth's surface to promote overall health. T/D is a complete and balanced nutrition for adult and senior dogs.

Most pets need more than a few dental cleanings in their lifetime, but regular dental care at home can mean fewer hospital procedures. All products are available at our hospital; please ask our staff if you have any questions.