

Wound management

Wound Care

It is important when your pet is discharged to correctly manage their wound to allow them to heal and make sure your pet does not interfere with the wound.

A buster collar must be used at all times to stop your pet licking the wound. An other option would be an inflatable buster collar which will provide more comfort and/or a medical pet t-shirt to cover the wound.



Licking the wound is a common reason for wounds to develop infections and break down in the early healing process, resulting in a longer healing process.

A light dressing called a primapore may be placed on the wound for protection in the first 48 hours. After this period the dressing can be removed. If the dressing becomes wet or soiled then this should be removed before the 48 hours period. Wetting the edges with warm water will make the dressing easier to remove.

Wound closure can either be with intradermals (no external stitches seen and internal ones will dissolve), skin stitches or skin staples. Skin sutures and skin staples will need removed 10-14 day post op.



Bandages and Casts

These must be kept clean and dry at all times.

Please use a waterproof covering when taking your pet out to the toilet and then remove this when they are back inside.

The dressing may need changed if:

- It gets wet
- It has slipped or twisted
- Any discharge seeping through or it starts to smell
- Your pet stops putting weight on the limb or is paying more attention to the dressing

There can be major consequences if the dressings are not looked after correctly, for example wound breakdown or pressure sores.



When to be concerned

If you see any of these signs please get in touch as they may indicate a problem:

- The wound edges look red or swollen
- Fluid or pus oozing from wound or “strike through” on the dressing
- The wound has opened or stitches look loose