

## Soft Tissue Biopsy Aftercare Information

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Procedure Performed:** A small soft tissue biopsy is made through a small stab incision in the skin with a Trucut biopsy instrument.

Your pet had sedation today and may be sleepy for several hours to overnight after returning home.

Nausea is common following General Anesthesia or sedation:

- **FOOD AND WATER:** Large intakes of food and water following a hospital visit are common due to the excitement of returning home. This type of vomiting can often be eliminated by not allowing access to food or water for 2 hours after returning home.
  - o Smaller feeding the first night after sedation or anesthesia. We recommend starting with half the amount of food you normally feed to see if your pet can keep it down. If you find that your pet is hungry, you can offer food several hours later.

**Convalescent period:** Your pet may be sore in the location of the biopsy and if it was on a limb may even limp on the leg for a few days, but they should improve to the same function they were prior to the biopsy within 5-7 days maximum. From that point on, if you notice that your pet worsens at any time during recovery, please give us a call.

### Medications:

\*\*\*\* Some patients may not need pain relieving medication following a small biopsy.

( X ) Other: Please let us know if you think your pet is experiencing pain and we can get some if needed for a couple of days. For dogs we typically use Tramadol and for cats we typically use Buprenex.

**Exercise:** Limit activity to inside for the next 2-3 days. Do not allow excessive jumping, climbing stairs, or roughhousing with other pets or people. Strenuous activity can cause some swelling in the biopsy site.

**Incision:** Please check the incision daily for redness, swelling, pain or discharge. Please call if you have concerns. Do not allow your pet to scratch at the incision. A mild amount of swelling at the biopsy region is common following a biopsy of this type. An ice pack on the area for 10 minutes 2-3 times a day can reduce swelling, but is not required for a successful recovery.

( +/- ) There may or may not be external staples/sutures that need to be removed. Frequently, even when sutures are put in the skin, the suture may be able to absorb on it's own.

( X ) **LAB /BIOPSY RESULTS:** Biopsy results should return in 5-7 days time. Dr. Hodge will call you with these results, but please call if you have not heard from her in 7 days. A copy of these results will be sent to your regular veterinarian after review.

PLEASE RETURN your pet for: Additional recheck evaluations will be discussed pending the biopsy report.