

Pioneer Veterinary Clinic

827 Sharon Avenue Moses Lake, WA 98837

509-765-6794

Dental After Care

1. Your pet may not be fully awake when you first pick them up. A nice **quiet** place is best for several hours to recover. It's also important to keep your pet **warm**, as anesthesia can make it difficult for them to maintain their normal body temperature.
2. Anesthesia may make your pet feel thirsty or nauseous. For this reason **do not let them eat or drink excessively** the first evening. Start by offering a small amount of water, wait 20-30 minutes until you know they can hold this down and then you can offer a little more water and a small amount of food (about 1/4 – 1/2 the normal amount). Some pets may not be hungry the night of the procedure and may even vomit; this is normal but should correct itself by morning. If your pet is still vomiting, not eating or drinking, or seems depressed after 24 hours please contact us.
3. If your pet had tooth **extractions** their gums may be tender for the next few days. Depending on which teeth were extracted your pet might appreciate **softened food** for 3-5 days while their gums heal (either use canned food or soak dry food in warm water or chicken broth).
4. Sometimes **surgical extractions** are necessary which involves suturing the gums closed. If this is the case you may notice string-like material in your pet's mouth; this is the **suture** and does not need to be removed, it will dissolve on its own.
5. It can be normal for your pet to have a **slight cough** for **one to two days** after having a dental cleaning due to irritation from the breathing tube that was placed during anesthesia. If the cough is severe or persistent and you are concerned, please call our office.
6. The best way to help prevent the accumulation of tartar on your pet's teeth is **daily brushing**. If your pet will allow it, we offer **dental kits** with toothbrushes and toothpaste to purchase if you are interested.
7. If your pet had their first set of **vaccinations** they will require boosters in **3-4 weeks**. Vaccination boosters must be given in this time frame in order for their vaccination to provide full protection.
8. If your pet has **green vet-wrap** on one of their legs, this is where the IV catheter was placed and the wrap can be removed in 45 minutes to 1 hour after picking up.
9. The **medication(s)** we are sending home with your pet today is/are:

These can be started the evening of the anesthetic procedure unless otherwise instructed. If you did not receive **pain management** and your pet appears to be uncomfortable please contact us. If your pet was sent home on **antibiotics** make sure that they finish all of them.

10. Additional comments:

Should you have any questions please feel free to call us Monday-Friday 7am to 8pm, Saturday 8am to Noon. 24 hour emergency service is provided if the need arises. Thank You!