



Post-operative care after surgery for cataracts

Cataract surgery in the dog requires a full general anaesthetic of about 1 hr and 30 mins duration. All patients have intravenous fluids (a drip) and usually we feed a small meal post operatively, particularly with diabetic patients.

Please keep your pet as quiet as possible post operatively. Avoid excitement and barking. It is usually best to take away all toys, as energetic chewing or shaking of toys can cause problems. Please leave the furniture layout as it is in the pet's familiar setting, and be aware that vision may be variable in the days immediately post operatively, and this is often made worse by the Elizabethan collar.

If your dog pulls on the lead, then a harness would be better than a collar. Think about restarting walks 2-3 days post operatively, but only allow controlled exercise on a lead initially. This will be discussed at the post operatively checks

Feed a small meal tonight -about half portion of normal diet or some bland food like boiled chicken/rice or similar.

Ideally leave the Elizabethan collar on for 1 week. You can remove it while you are with your pet but ensure you are watching to avoid any rubbing of the eyes especially after drops have been administered.

FOR DIABETIC PATIENTS:

INSULIN WAS GIVEN TODAY _____ UNITS, AT _____ O'CLOCK

BLOOD GLUCOSE READINGS TODAY WERE _____ AT _____ O'CLOCK.

FURTHER INSULIN IS DUE TODAY _____ UNITS, AT _____ O'CLOCK

MEDICATION

Please administer the drops and medication as requested

- A topical antibiotic is usually dispensed, typically Ciloxan, given 4 times daily for a week only
- An anti-inflammatory steroid drop is usually dispensed, typically Pred Forte, usually given 4times daily for 1 month then 2 times daily on-going.
- Oral anti-biotics are usually given. This is usually a week's course of Noroclav tablets
- Non steroidal anti-inflammatories (NSAIDs) are usually dispensed, typically either meloxicam (Loxicom or Metacam) or else carprofen (Carprodyll or Rimadyl). Please follow instructions on the packages.
- Occasionally drops to reduce pressure inside the eye will be given -Azopt or Travatan/Latanoprost

If a previously comfortable eye suddenly becomes uncomfortable **do not** use steroid drops, as the pain may mean that a corneal ulcer or injury is present, and this should be checked out promptly.

Occasionally diarrhoea develops on NSAID medication. In this event please contact either us or your own vets. If there is blood in the diarrhoea please stop the medication and again contact us or your own practice. The medication that we have dispensed and/or recommended will always have been reported to your own vets by letter.

RE EXAMINATIONS

Post operative checks are usually scheduled at 2-3 days; 1 week; 4 weeks; 2-3 months; 6 months.

More re examinations may be required if there are any problems or issues. No charge will be made for these examinations, but the cost of drugs /extra medications may be payable if this goes over the pre allocated amount.

EXPECTED APPEARANCE OF THE EYE POST OPERATIVELY

There will be a small suture line (3mm long, at the top of the cornea). A slightly cloudy appearance to the eye, and redness, particularly around the suture line is normal. There may be slightly increased sensitivity to light and some ocular discomfort, but this is not usually severe and the inflammation and redness should be gradually improving in the days and weeks following surgery. If there is any concern please ring and ask for clarification. We will always see the case back or advise you if there are any concerns at all.

Our fixed prices for surgery include any follow up consults as outlined above, but there may be charges for further medication or revision surgery.

For further advice please contact us by phone on 07944 105501 or at mail@wm-referrals.com. Consider texting/emailing pictures.