

Post Operative Instructions – looking after a Bandage or Caste.

- **The success of the treatment of your pet depends on good care of the dressing. Most of this care is given by you, at home, but the dressing should also be checked regularly at the surgery and may need to be changed.**

Dogs should have minimal lead-only exercise. If your dog goes outside in wet weather, cover the end of the dressing with a plastic bag held in place with string or tape. Remove the bag as soon as your dog returns to the house. If the dressing gets wet please contact the surgery as soon as possible.

Cats should be confined to the house and provided with a litter tray. In some cases the animal may need to be confined to a very small area (a room or cage). We will advise you if this is the case.

Check the condition of the dressing every morning. Look for evidence of swelling of the limb or chafing at the edges of the bandage. If you are worried you should contact the surgery. This is especially important after each dressing change.

You should ring the surgery immediately

...If your pet is off-colour in any way e.g.

- **Quiet or Depressed.**
- **Lethargic or reluctant to move.**
- **Lack of appetite .**

...If there are signs of problems with the dressing e.g.

- **Staining of the bandage.**
- **A foul smell from the bandage.**
- **If the dressing gets damp or wet.**
- **Slipping of the bandage from its original position.**
- **Chewing at the bandage or other signs of discomfort.**

Please contact us if you are worried at any stage!