



PET ADVICE – CARE OF DRESSINGS AND CASTS

When your pet has been discharged from the surgery with a dressing or cast, there are a few important things you need to do.

1. Please ensure the dressing/cast is kept clean and dry. If it becomes wet, please remove it as soon as you are in a dry place to avoid sweating. Make an appointment with the vet to get the dressing/cast changed as soon as possible. This is because the dressing material acts like a wick and draws the moisture straight to the skin, creating a warm, damp environment for bacteria to breed which will cause skin irritation at best and infections at worst. If your pet has a wound beneath the dressing/cast, infection needs to be avoided at all costs so it is imperative to keep the wound clean and dry if uncovered.
2. Check dressing/cast daily for signs of slippage or movement. If this occurs please contact us without delay, or your own veterinary surgeon if you have been referred.
3. Smell the dressing/cast on a daily basis. If it smells unpleasant, please get it checked as soon as possible.
4. When taking dogs out to the garden to the toilet, please place a water proof cover over the dressing/cast to avoid getting it wet/damp.
5. Do not allow your pet to chew the dressing/cast. If this occurs a buster collar will be required.
6. Check your pet's skin around the top of the dressing/cast to ensure there are no signs of irritation. If there are signs of irritation please contact your vet for the dressing/cast to be check and altered if necessary.
7. Please ensure your pet's exercise is limited as directed by the veterinary surgeon. If lead exercise only has been requested, it means short-lead exercise and not flexi-leads. Remember, this is for your animal's benefit. Unlike people they do not understand that they are not supposed to run around as normal; even if it does hurt, a ball still feels worth the chase!



If you are at all worried about your pet, please contact us without delay, or your own veterinary surgeon if you have been referred.