

07-06-2024

Natalia Boiko

255 Newbridge

1000

Plano, TX 75075

Dr Mariana Pascucci
Culver Pet Clinic

Ariel
Canine, Labrador Retriever Mix, 5 years 5 months
18 days, FS

Thank you for letting us take care of Ariel:

Ariel _____

Last urination: _____ **Last bowel movement:** _____ **Food offered at:** _____ **Appetite:** _____

Diagnosis: Cranial Cruciate Ligament Tear - Left

Surgical Procedure: TPLO w Scope - Left

CONFINEMENT / POSTOPERATIVE CARE This investment is essential for a successful outcome.

Week 1-2

- > Confinement in a small area (cage, small room)
- > Leash walks for up to 5 minutes to allow elimination.
- > **Incision recheck and staple removal in 14 days (Please call for an appointment) The bandage may fall off on its own in a few days, or if it is falling off you may remove it. If the bandage is still on at this recheck, it will be removed at this appointment.**
- > No running, jumping, playing or climbing stairs.

Week 3-4

- > Continue confinement in a small area.
- > Leash walks up to 10 minutes.
- > No running, jumping, or playing.
- > Stairs can be used with *caution* - please hold Ariel's collar or put on a leash.

Week 4-8

- > Continue confinement in a small area.
- > Leash walks 15 minutes
- > No running, jumping, or playing.
- > Stairs can be used with *caution* - please hold Ariel's collar or put on a leash.
- > **Recheck x-rays at 8 weeks** to monitor bone healing (sedation may be required therefore your pet should not eat after midnight the night prior to your appointment). There is no additional charge for these films.

Week 8-12

- > Gradual increase in activity with confirmed bone healing.
- > Off-leash exercise is **only allowed after the 12 week mark.**

Please remove pressure wrap from Ariel's leg 1 hour after arriving home.

ELIZABETHAN COLLAR: The collar is used to prevent self-trauma to Ariel's incision. It is usually best to keep it on at all times until the incision is healed. It can be removed if you are closely watching her at all times in order to allow her to walk outside or eat and drink. Please bring your E-collar for all follow up appointments.

INCISION CARE: Do not let Ariel lick or chew at the incision. Check daily for any incisional swelling or drainage. It is not usually necessary to clean the area, however, if drainage is noticed or the incision is dirty, use warm water on a soft cloth for gentle cleaning. It is not uncommon to see bruising around the incision site. Bruising can be dark red to purple in coloration and will typically dissipate a few days after surgery. You may also notice redness or skin irritation where your pet was shaved for surgery. Please do not let Ariel continuously lick/scratch/traumatize these areas. You can use an e-collar to prevent self-trauma.

MEDICATION: Administer all medications as directed. If you think Ariel is experiencing any side effects from the prescribed medications, please call and speak to one of our staff members.

Drug Name	Quantity	Instructions
Carprofen 75mg Caplet	20	(NSAID) Give 1 tablet orally every 12 hours with food. Discontinue if vomiting or diarrhea is noted. Next dose is due with dinner.
Neurontin (Gabapentin) 400mg Capsule	42	(PAIN MED) GIVE 1 CAPSULE ORALLY EVERY 8 HOURS AS NEEDED FOR PAIN. MAY CAUSE DROWSINESS OR SEDATION. Next Dose Due: This afternoon (4pm)
Trazodone 100mg Tablet	84	(SEDATIVE) GIVE 1.5 TO 2 TABLETS ORALLY EVERY 8-12 HOURS AS NEEDED FOR ANXIETY AND CONFINEMENT. Next Dose Due: As needed
Nocita 13.3mg/ml Injection per ML	14	The local anesthetic agent Nocita was instilled at the time of closure to provide a sustained-release 72-hour bupivacaine blockade. This medication was administered during surgery. This medication was given during surgery.

MEDICATION WARNING AND DRUG COUNSELING:

Date/Time	Drug Name	Quantity	Description
07-06-2024	Carprofen 75mg Caplet	20	This medication is a Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drug (NSAID) that is used for the treatment of pain and inflammation. This medication should NOT be administered with any other NSAID or steroid medication. Common side effects include anorexia, vomiting, nausea, diarrhea, black/tarry stools. Overdose could result in liver toxicity, kidney toxicity, or gastric perforation. If you miss a dose or are unsure whether your pet ingested the medication, do not administer again. Wait until the next prescribed dose. Duration of effect is 12 hours. Store at room temperature in packaging provided.
07-06-2024	Neurontin (Gabapentin) 400mg Capsule	42	This medication is commonly used for neuropathic pain analgesia. Use with caution for patients with renal insufficiency. Side effects may include lethargy, sedation, and ataxia. If you miss a dose or are unsure whether your pet ingested the medication, do not administer again. Wait until the next prescribed dose. The duration of effect is 8 to 12 hours. Store in room temperature in packaging provided.
07-06-2024	Trazodone 100mg Tablet	84	This is an anti-anxiety medication commonly used for sedation/confinement. Use with caution for geriatric and neonatal patients. Contraindicated with SSRI anti-depressants (i.e. tramadol, prozac). Side effects may include lethargy, sedation, panting, hyperactivity, shaking and restlessness. If you miss a dose or are unsure whether your pet ingested the medication, do not administer again. Wait until the next prescribed dose. The duration of effect is 8 to 12 hours. Store in room temperature in packaging provided.

RECHECKS: Please call our office to schedule the following rechecks:

- **Recheck for staple removal in 14 days.**
- **Recheck in 8 weeks for sedate/ x-rays** (this appointment has already been pre-paid). No food after midnight for this appointment, water is fine until the morning.

QUESTIONS: If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to email or call to speak with a staff member.

Email: Send any incision pictures and non-urgent questions/concerns to rechecks@vssoc.com

During Business Hours (Monday through Sunday 7am - 6pm): Please call VSSOC at **949-936-0055**.

Overnight Hours (Monday through Sunday 6pm - 7am): Please call VSSOC at **949-936-0055** or AVSG Urgent Care **949-653-9300**.

Dr. Thomas Keeshen tkeeshen@vssoc.com

POST-OPERATIVE

Q: What do I do if Ariel won't take her medications?

A: Here are a few tips to try:

Pills/capsules: If Ariel does not take pills/capsules easily, you can consider hiding the medication in small meatballs. Use canned food to form small meatballs, just enough to cover the medication. When meatballs are too large, Ariel may eat the outside and then spit out the pill/capsule. The goal is to have Ariel swallow the meatball without knowing there were medications inside. You can also try this method with boiled chicken breast.

Liquid medications: Gently guide Ariel's nose upward by lifting under the chin, insert the syringe into the side of the mouth, just behind the canine tooth, and give the medication while keeping the head lifted upwards. This allows the medication to travel to the back of the throat to stimulate swallowing of the medication. You can also gently rub the neck to stimulate swallowing.

Q: Can all the medications sent home with Ariel be given together?

A: Unless otherwise directed in our discharge paperwork, all medications being sent home are safe to be given at the same time.

Q: Can I give Ariel supplements and flea/heartworm prevention after surgery?

A: It is okay to continue Ariel's supplements and flea/heartworm prevention as previously directed. If Ariel receives topical flea prevention, please apply the medication in an area away from the incision site.

Q: How can I tell if Ariel is experiencing pain, anxiety or dysphoria?

A: Here are the common ways to tell if your pet is experiencing the following:

Pain/discomfort: The demeanor of your pet as she leaves the hospital is what you should expect at home. Any signs of your pet doing worse may require re-evaluation by a doctor. You should be able to touch the incision. Signs of pain can include lameness, especially if she becomes non-weight-bearing on the surgery limb. If your pet yelps out when the incision site or the surgery limb is touched. Clinical signs of pain in dogs include panting, crying, increased aggression, decreased appetite, decreased activity, withdrawal from the owner, and agitation.

Anxiety: Anxiety can be triggered in pets due to stress, separation anxiety, medications, fears, certain illness/disease, or simply being in an unfamiliar environment without their family. Anxiety can be observed as subtle behavior changes (i.e. whining, seeking comfort/attention, hiding or preferring solitude, panting/shaking, and excessive licking or chewing) to more profound symptoms (i.e. aggression, excessive vocalization, destruction, and high energy).

Dysphoria: Dysphoria is a profound state of unease or dissatisfaction accompanied by anxiety or agitation. Dysphoria is typically caused by opioid medication or anesthesia. Clinical signs seen in a dysphoric animal include vocalization, panting, or struggling.

Q: When can Ariel have a bath?

A: Your pet cannot have a bath while the surgical incision is healing, or if your pet has a bandage. During this time, you can use waterless shampoo or bathing wipes. Typically, your pet can have a bath after sutures/bandages are removed. If your pet had an orthopedic surgery, please make sure the bathing area has a non-slip surface for your pet to stand on.

Q: When will Ariel have a bowel movement?

A: Your pet may not have a bowel movement for several days after surgery. This is normal due to fasting prior to your pet's surgical procedure. A bowel movement will come along in the next few days as long as your pet continues to eat and drink at home. If you notice your pet straining to have a bowel movement, please contact our staff for further instructions.

Q: What if Ariel has diarrhea?

A: Diarrhea can be a common side effect for some pets due to the stress of surgery, medications, and/or the change in their daily routine. Please call our office if the diarrhea is lasting more than 24 hours after being home or if your pet seems to have an excessive amount of diarrhea.

Q: How often should Ariel be urinating after surgery?

A: Your pet should urinate at least twice a day during recovery. If you notice any straining during urination or lack of urine production for 24 hours, please call us for further instructions.

Q: What should I do if Ariel is leaking urine while sleeping?

A: This is most commonly seen in patients that have been sedated and are unable to urinate on their normal schedule. Offer additional short walks and additional time outside to give them the opportunity to relieve themselves more frequently or before administering a sedative (or medications that cause drowsiness).

Q: What should I do if Ariel is not eating normally?

A: It is normal for pets to have a reduced appetite postoperatively. Bland foods such as boiled chicken and rice can be fed safely. Resume Ariel's regular feeding schedule as soon as possible.

Q: What if I have questions after Veterinary Surgical Specialists has closed for the day?

A: To speak with a staff member after 6pm, you can call Veterinary Surgical Specialists at 949-936-0055, the VSS technician cell phone at 949-872-6669, or AVSG After Hours at 949-653-9300. However, the after hours staff may not have intimate knowledge regarding the procedure compared to the morning surgical staff, so please be patient while they help answer your after hours questions. When calling, please inform them with the surgeon who performed the surgery, what surgery was performed, and how long ago the surgery was performed.

To make an appointment, please call during normal business hours Monday through Saturday 7am - 6pm.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY:

AVSG URGENT CARE

Opens every night 6pm - 8am

949-653-9300 Option 3

AVSGUrgentCare.com