



# Central Bucks Animal Hospital

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*"We're Your Pet's Family Doctor"*

## ***What to do When Your Dog Comes Home After Surgery***

**Keep your dog calm and quiet for the rest of the day.** Put him or her in a quiet room or crate. Do not play with your pet or allow any jumping or running. Use a leash when walking outside. Too much activity too soon after surgery can make the surgery area painful and can cause vomiting. You can treat your dog normally the next day.

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**Your dog may vomit one to several times** the day he or she comes home, but should be fine by the next day. People who have had surgery know that you sometimes feel nauseous due to the anesthesia.

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**Do not feed your dog until the next day.** A little water late in the day is OK. If you offer food too soon, your pet may vomit.

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**Do not allow your dog to lick the surgery area.** If he or she insists on licking, stop by and pick up a plastic Elizabethan (bucket/cone-type) collar.

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**A few dogs may still seem a little uncomfortable for a day or so after surgery.** All dogs get a shot of pain medication before surgery, but some dogs are just a little more sensitive than others. Small breed dogs, especially, may shake a little the next day. Make sure you give your pet all the pain meds we give to you.

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**It may take several days for your dog to return to completely normal behavior.** Most dogs are fine the next day, but a few animals take their time to return to their old selves, so do not worry. Call us if you have any questions.