

Postoperative care after perineal urethrostomy

1 Exercise restrictions

If your cat goes outdoors, you need to keep your cat indoors during the recovery phase (2-3 weeks)

2. Some swelling of the wound is normal,

You should become concerned that your pet may have an infection IF:

A: the wound becomes very swollen or discharges a yellow or green material

If these signs occur, you should contact your veterinarian

3 What is a normal postoperative course?

Your cat should urinate at least once per day. If he appears to be having trouble urinating, please call for advice. An Elizabethan collar will be in place on his neck. It is very important that you leave this in place to stop him from chewing sutures out. He should be able to eat and drink with it on. If the collar comes off, it must be placed back on again.

4 Other information

The timing of suture removal is very important. Generally sutures are removed in 10-12 days and most cats require sedation for this. Plan to make an appointment with your veterinarian and fast your cat after 10pm the night before. Water is O.K up until the appointment. You may need to place the Elizabethan collar back on for 1-2 days after suture removal especially if your kitty continues to lick excessively at the surgery site.

Recommendations about cat litter:

Some patients are sent home with a special paper litter to urinate in. Regular cat litter is usually O.K; however, the litter may stick to the incision. Generally this can be picked off lightly or washed off with a little water. Your cat may not tolerate this well, and if you are concerned that there is excessive build up of litter at the incision, please call. There is often build up of hair around the sutures; you should not try to remove this.

Long term considerations

Your cat will now urinate through a larger opening, which minimizes the chances of obstruction again. Occasionally a stricture can form at the site, which may mean more surgery. Fortunately this is rare. Sometimes it is possible to minimize the chances of recurrence by altering your cat's diet. You should discuss this with your veterinarian.