

Cheat Sheet for Surgery Medications to Go Home

(updated 9/26/23)

We send home post care surgery medications! 😊

-we give an injectable form of pain medications during surgery that are good for up to 12 hours.

When clients ask if they have received anything today:

“YES, your pet received injectable pain medications during surgery, if convenient you could start their oral pain medications tonight at dinner time..”

-if for any reason they are not going home with our pre-made medication bundle there should be a note of why.

For example: already on a different medication, it's a rescue that has an agreement with us that they don't receive some of the medications, the pet received a different medication, etc.

If you are ever confused please ask a staff member to help you go over the medications

DOGS:

1. **Carprofen:** anti-inflammatory/pain medication; form of a TABLET. Given by mouth every 12 hours.

Non Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory (NSAID), for inflammation at the local site and reduces localized pain. Give with food, can cause stomach upset, if the pet begins to have stomach upset such as vomiting or diarrhea, stop continuing the medication and come back in to see us at the clinic

2. **Gabapentin:** pain medication; form of a CAPSULE. Given by mouth every 12 hours. Nerve related pain medication that decreases the signal sent to pain receptors within the body system, may cause mild drowsiness

*we have liquid gabapentin to go home with our patients that are under 10lbs (keep refrigerated)

3. **Trazadone:** sedative medication; form of a TABLET. Given by mouth every 12 hours. Causes drowsiness/sleepiness for patients to be less stressed and anxious during their recovery

4. **Meloxicam:** anti-inflammatory/pain medication; form of a LIQUID. Given by mouth every 24 hours. These should be in pre-made syringes, one syringe every 24 hours. Give with food, can cause stomach upset, if the pet begins to have stomach upset such as vomiting or diarrhea, stop continuing the medication and come back in to see us at the clinic

given to pets under 10lbs in replacement of carprofen

CATS:

1. **Liquid Gabapentin:** pain medication; form of a LIQUID. Given by mouth every 12 hours (keep refrigerated).

Nerve related pain medication that blocks the pain receptors within the body system, may cause mild drowsiness

If there are additional medications going home that the client has already approved our clinic to fill, there should be directions on the surgery form on what it's for, when to give it. Ask for help

Antibiotic Quick Facts

We do not give out antibiotics “pre infection” or “preventatively”. (A lot of clients ask about this)

Reasons why that is not beneficial for their pets health:

1. Antibiotics given when not needed can cause antibiotic resistance, if the pet gets an infection later, that specific antibiotic given will not be as effective.

2. Antibiotics can also disrupt the pets health and do more harm than good if the pet does not need to be on an antibiotic

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3. Viral infections vs. bacterial infections, we can not administer antibiotics for viral infections, antibiotics can only treat bacterial infections. The short story is viruses have a different cell type than bacteria and antibiotics can only be effective against bacterial cells.