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Post-Operative Care for Feline Declaws

Do NOT allow running, jumping, climbing stairs for 14 days. The scabs from surgery will fall off naturally as your cat cleans his/her feet. Do not become alarmed if your cat occasionally holds his/her foot up in the air (for the next week or so).

- **Please refrain from using normal cat litter for the next 14 days** - You can use shredded paper, or a pelleted product called Yesterday's News (made from recycled newspaper) while your pet heals. This reduces the opportunity for infection to occur.
- **Monitor paws** - Monitor surgical sites on each toe for EXCESSIVE swelling, or oozing of blood or pus. Contact us if you notice any of these signs or if your cat refuses to bear weight on front paws after the first 24 hrs.
- **Incision Licking** - Excessive licking of the incision causes irritation, swelling, and can lead to infection. If your cat is excessively licking, please come to the clinic to purchase an e-collar.
- **Recovery Time** - Expect that it will take about 2-6 weeks before your cat walks completely normal. The younger the cat, the quicker the recovery will be.
- **Pain Medications** - Your pet has received pain medications while in the hospital, and will continue to take them at home (if you have approved pain medication).
- **Sutures (stitches)** - There are **no sutures to remove**. The surgical sites were closed with a surgical adhesive.
- **Food/Water** - Offer normal amount at home, but be aware that appetite may not return to normal for a day or two after surgery.
- **Keep feet dry for 14 days** - Do not wash the feet or apply anything topically. Excess moisture around the surgical site provides the perfect environment for an infection to occur.

If you have questions during this time, please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank You!