



LITTLE SENECA ANIMAL HOSPITAL

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Germantown, MD 20876
301-540-8670
myLSHA.com

INCISION/SUTURES

- **Most incisions need very little care.** Slight redness and oozing of a watery, blood-tinged fluid is normal but should not last no more than 1-2 days.
- **Use hydrogen peroxide** to clean the incision, if **necessary**.
- Whenever possible our surgeons use dissolvable sutures, which do not require removal. They also serve to dramatically reduce licking and scratching of the incision area.
- If your animal has **external sutures**, they should be removed **10-14 days after surgery**, unless told otherwise. A technician in our office can remove these. Please call to schedule an appointment.
- **Licking and scratching** of the incision site can and will cause **delayed healing, infection, and may potentially necessitate further surgery**. Please observe closely for excessive licking- *this is especially true in canine neuters of Labrador and Golden retrievers.*
- **If excessive licking and/or scratching** does occur, your animal may need an **Elizabethan collar, spraying with Bitter Apple**, or the use of some other type of deterrent.
- **Please contact our office if you observe:**
 - **Excessive swelling or tenderness**
 - **Discharge lasting more then 2 days**
 - **Pus or infection around the incision site**
 - **Heat on or around the incision site**
 - **Or if you have any questions at all!**
- **Please reduce activity level, no jumping, rough-housing or stairs for 5-7 days.**