

**FELINE POST SURGICAL RELEASE FORM**

Microchip # \_\_\_\_\_ Adoptee \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ANIMAL ID #: \_\_\_\_\_ STAFF INTL: \_\_\_\_\_

Your new pet has just had been spayed (females) or neutered (males). Although routine, these are major surgeries performed under general anesthesia using sterile operating technique. Following the guidelines below will ensure that your pet will recover smoothly as they adjust to their new environment.

**INITIAL**

\_\_\_\_\_ **ACTIVITY:** Restrict your pet's activity for 14 days after surgery. Keep your pet quiet, indoors, clean, warm, and dry. **DO NOT BATHE** for 10-14 days. Your cat may have a decreased appetite or seem sleepy and less active as a lingering effect of anesthesia, but normal appetite and activity should return within 24-48 hours.

\_\_\_\_\_ **SUTURES:** All sutures are absorbable under the skin and do not need to be removed. Do not clean or apply ointment to incision site. Do not allow your pet to lick or chew at the incision. If your pet is licking at the incision site, purchase an Elizabethan collar from your local pet store or veterinarian.

\_\_\_\_\_ **TATTOO:** Female cats spayed at the Orange County Animal Care Services clinic are tattooed at the incision site. Please inform your veterinarian. This will appear as a black mark that will eventually turn into a green line that allows us and other clinics to know that the animal has already been sterilized.

\_\_\_\_\_ **VET EXAM:** You are entitled to a free exam by a Southern California Veterinary Medical Association (SCVMA) veterinarian. Have your family veterinarian recheck the incision and put your new cat on a vaccination and parasite control program.

\_\_\_\_\_ **POTENTIAL COMPLICATIONS:** Check the incision site daily. What you see today is what we consider normal. Minimal redness and swelling is normal and should resolve within several days.

\_\_\_\_\_ **FELINE UPPER RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS (URI):** Similar to the common cold in humans, this disease is common in cats that have been exposed to other cats, such as at a shelter. Signs of URI include sneezing, runny nose, red or runny eyes, sores on the tongue, lips, nose, or roof of mouth, fever, anorexia, and decreased energy. URI is contagious to other cats so it's a good idea to isolate new cats from other cats in your house for 8-10 days to give them a chance to settle in and make sure they are not coming down with anything. URI is rarely fatal and usually resolves in 1-3 weeks. Treatment is generally supportive. In rare cases, URI can cause serious disease. Also, sick cats may not eat or drink adequately. Warming up canned food can help stimulate appetite. It is important to make sure that your new pet continues to eat. If your cat shows signs of URI or incision site complications within the first 7 days of adoption, please contact OCACS at (714) 935-6848.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact OCACS at (714) 935-6848 Monday - Friday 8:00am – 5:00pm. If you have questions after hours, contact your local emergency clinic. **Any and all financial expenses incurred after adoption are the sole responsibility of the new pet owner.**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**OC Animal Care**

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