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DENTAL DISCHARGE INSTRUCTIONS

Feeding:

- **Tonight, feed your pet half of their usual food amount. You can return to their normal serving amount tomorrow morning.** It's common for pets to be quiet or have a reduced appetite for the first 24-48 hours after surgery, as recovery from surgery and anesthesia varies per pet. If your pet isn't eating, try offering tempting, bland options like cooked chicken and rice or baby food. It's acceptable if they don't eat for 12-18 hours. However, if their appetite doesn't return within 24-48 hours, or if they develop symptoms such as vomiting, diarrhea, or worsening lethargy, please contact us or your regular veterinarian immediately.
- **If your pet has had dental extractions,** please feed soft food or soak dry kibble in 1/4 inch of warm water for 5-10 minutes before feeding. Continue this altered diet until the extraction sites are rechecked. This will soften the kibble, making it easier for your pet to pick up and eat.

Monitoring:

- Observe your pet for any indications of pain or inflammation. If you observe symptoms such as facial swelling or lack of appetite, please reach out to us or your regular veterinarian. We can then assess if medication is necessary.
- **Post-Dental Cough — What to Expect:** It's normal for some pets to develop a cough for up to three days after a dental procedure. This is often a result of intubation (the endotracheal tube used during the procedure). If the cough persists for more than three days, or if you have any concerns, please contact us.
- **Contact us immediately if you observe any of the following:** pale gums, depression, unsteady gait, loss of appetite, decreased water intake, vomiting, diarrhea, excessive oral bleeding, difficulty urinating or defecating, or labored breathing. Never administer human medication to your pet; it can be dangerous and even fatal.