

FRIDGE CHEAT SHEET

Your dog or cat after surgery – the first 48 hours

A summary of the Opatulo blog guide: opatulo.pl/blog. Stick it on the fridge – so it is at hand when you need it.

DAY 1 – waking up

- Bed on the floor (not your bed, not the sofa) – a quiet spot, a warm blanket.
- First a small amount of water; food only a few hours later – a small, easily digestible portion.
- Recovery suit or cone on at all times – one lick can ruin the stitches.
- Other animals in a separate room for a day.
- Wobbling, shivering, "crying" and glassy eyes after anaesthesia are normal.

DAY 2 – appetite returns

- Appetite should come back. If your pet still is not eating or drinking, vomits or does not urinate – call the clinic.
- Slight redness and a little swelling around the stitches is normal.

UNTIL THE STITCHES COME OUT (10–14 DAYS)

- Wound protection non-stop – until the stitches come out, not "until they lose interest".
- Dogs: short walks on the lead only. Cats: no going outside, no high shelves.
- No baths, no soaking the wound. A daily glance at the stitches (20 seconds in the morning).

ALARM – call the vet IMMEDIATELY

- Bleeding that does not stop · pus, bad smell, growing swelling.
- Apathy or no appetite for over 24 h · recurring vomiting · no urination for over 24 h.
- Pale gums, fast shallow breathing, weakness (possible shock) · fever above approx. 39.5°C.