



WARREN HOUSE VETERINARY CENTRE

Post-Aural Haematoma Homecare

Your pet has recently undergone aural haematoma surgery; this process includes the removal of blood/fluid from the ear flap by creating an incision down the middle of the ear flap and 'stents' placed around the incision to create pressure to prevent another aural haematoma forming during healing.

An aural haematoma is the presence of blood/fluid within the skin of the ear flap causing a swelling, almost like a blister and is caused by a ruptured blood vessel within the ear flap through vigorous head shaking or through trauma.

Most commonly, aural haematomas are caused by underlying issues such as an ear infection, skin problem or ear mites which all cause head shaking due to inner ear irritation. If the underlying cause is not treated, aural haematomas can reoccur in the same, or opposite ear.

The swelling is usually very soft to the touch, hot and can cause the ear to droop down due to the weight of the fluid. Itching, head shaking and the aural haematoma being present are common symptoms of ear problems, a head tilt is also not uncommon when dealing with the ears.

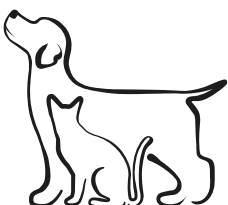
Complications:

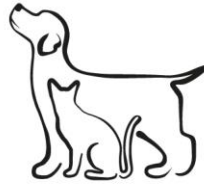
Please notify the practice at once if any of the following occur:

- Vomiting after 24 hours at home
- Diarrhoea
- Refusal to eat or drink after 24 hours at home
- No passing of urine or faeces 24 hours after their procedure
- Signs of severe pain (mild pain and discomfort are normal for the first few days after surgery)
- Scratching at the surgical site
- Excessive bleeding or discharge from the surgery site
- If your pet acts off or seems "not right" in any other way

Lickers, Chewers and Chewed out stitches.

Being on your pet's ear, licking and chewing at the surgical site is not possible, however this can become possible if there are multiple pets within your household. Since little tongues and teeth can do a lot of damage in a short time, this MUST BE





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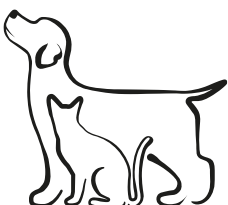
PREVENTED. To prevent licking and/or chewing at the incision site, it will be necessary to place a buster collar until the wound is healed. These are available from us at no extra cost. It may also be recommended to keep pets separated during the healing process unless strictly monitored to prevent complications. A buster collar should still be worn at all times to prevent damage to the incision site from scratching while treatment for the aural haematoma and underlying ear problems are resolved.

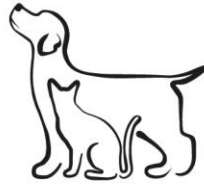
Occasionally pets will develop an infection despite our best efforts to prevent it. This usually appears as a green/yellow discharge from the wound. Please contact the practice immediately if you feel an infection may present. However, your pet should have been sent home with antibiotics to prevent infections due to the nature of the surgery – if more antibiotics are required, this will be picked up on at your post-operative checks and the course extended.

2 Post-Op Checks are performed by Veterinary Nurses or veterinary care assistants and are included in the price of your pet's surgery; however, if your pet requires additional treatment such as antibiotics, pain relief or potentially further surgery, the owner is responsible for all costs of necessary treatment because of any complications. These complications are all very rare and are handled on a case-by-case basis.

By following the guidelines below, you will be able to dramatically speed up your pet's Recovery.

- Offer your pet small amounts of water when you get home and food can be offered a few hours later – we recommend a bland diet such as chicken/white fish and rice/pasta or the food included in your home care package. However, their appetite may not be completely normal for a few days.
- Check the incision site daily for redness, swelling or discharge. If any of these signs are observed, please call the practice, and bring your pet by for a recheck as this can be a sign of active infection.
- Restrict running and jumping for the first few days following surgery to allow your pet to recover from their general anaesthetic.
- No swimming or bathing until the incision is fully healed and stents are removed.
- Do not give any over-the-counter pain relievers such as paracetamol or ibuprofen as these can be poisonous to pets. We will prescribe non-steroidal pain relief medication for the following 3-5 days after surgery which should keep your pet comfortable during their recovery.





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- It is recommended that your dog is kept away from other dogs and animals to not cause damage to the incision sites through licking or playing.

Wound cleaning:

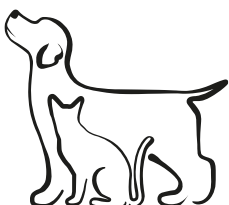
The incision is made in this way and left open to allow the aural haematoma to drain naturally and prevent refilling, therefore, some discharge and bleeding is normal – especially in the first few days. However, this can mean the area can get messy and will require regular cleaning.

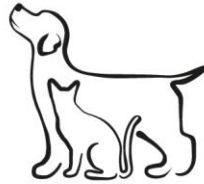
Keep the incision site clean by cleaning daily with warm salty water and cotton wool. Take care around the incision and do not use excessive force – especially if your pet is uncomfortable. If you are unsure how to clean the area properly, please ask one of the team at your pets' post-op checks and they will be happy to demonstrate. If your pet is too painful for the area to be cleaned, do not keep trying and let one of the team know as they may require extra pain relief.

Suture Removal

The sutures used to place the stents in your pet's ear will need to be removed in 10–14 days depending on the healing process. Please return for this service. There is no extra charge for this unless sedation is required.

Post-Operative Telephone Call – A staff member will call you a few days after the procedure to check on your pet. Do not be alarmed. This is a routine call to find out how your pet is progressing after her surgery.





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Thank you for choosing Warren House Vets for your pet's care. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us:

Telephone: 01543 373033

WhatsApp: 07999048536.

Facebook: Warren House Veterinary Centre Ltd

Post-Operative Out-of-Hours/Emergency Support



If you have any concerns following your pet's surgery, we offer free out-of-hours veterinary advice support with a UK Registered Vet, over the phone, as a part of our VIP Club.

To sign up please email: Info@warrenhousevets.co.uk



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Thank you!

