# **Bandage Care for Your Pet**

Your pet has just had an operation during which a bandage had to be applied to protect its wound. To help us care for your pet, you need to check your pet's bandage regularly. If you notice any of the following problems with the bandage, please phone the surgery and discuss what is happening:

### **Dog Owners**

If your dog has a bandaged paw, this must be covered before going outside. Put a plastic covering over the bandage to keep it dry. A plastic bag could be used for temporary protection. Hard-wearing protective commercial boots are available to buy for this purpose. This should remain on whilst the dog goes outside to toilet to prevent the bandage getting wet and removed once the animal is inside. This should be the animal's only exercise.

#### Cat Owners

Whilst your cat is wearing a bandage it must be kept strictly indoors. It needs a litter tray which must be kept clean, or the bandage will become soiled. Cats often attempt to remove their bandages by shaking their legs repeatedly, so check regularly for signs of it becoming loose.

## GIVE US A CALL IF:

- \* the bandage comes off in any way even if it looks possible to re-apply it.
- the bandage looks to have slipped or has a 'bunched' appearance.
- the bandage becomes wet, even if the area is away from the wound or reason for the bandage to have been applied.
- there is any sign of 'strike through' (defined as any bleeding or weeping becoming visible through the bandage).
- $\boldsymbol{*}$  the limb begins to swell above the top of the bandage.
- any sores appear around the bandage edges, in particular the top of the bandage.
- the bandage is significantly irritating the animal and/or is causing the animal to no longer use the dressed limb.
- $\boldsymbol{*}$  the bandage becomes smelly in any way.

All these things can mean there is a problem with the dressing and a member of our veterinary team should see the animal and, if necessary, re-dress the affected area.

## **Contact Information**

Telephone (24 hours): 01472 347054

Telephone (Office hours): 01472 362821



Telephone (Office hours): 01472 240422

FOLLOW UP APPOINTMENT / BANDADGE CARE Write appointment time and which surgery it is booked in for below.



Please let us know if you are unable to attend the above appointment and we will arrange an alternative day/time.