

Pet's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Discharge Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Airport Veterinary Clinic  
(812) 877-3087

### HOW TO CARE FOR YOUR CAT FOLLOWING DECLAWING

#### PROPER RESTRAINT

To prevent any injury, it is best to have your cat in a pet carrier when leaving the clinic. A pet carrier will ensure the safety of your cat and decrease any chance of injury during the ride home.

#### FOOD AND WATER

Your cat has been offered food and water overnight and this morning. Wait 1-2 hours after arriving home before offering food.

#### ELIMINATION

The gastrointestinal tract can be affected by general anesthesia and surgery. This may result in your cat having soft stools or constipation for 24-36 hours following the general anesthesia and surgical procedure. Some cats may have bright red blood on their stools associated with stress. If any changes persist beyond 36 hours please contact our office.

You need to use the "Yesterday's News" cat litter for the next 7-10 days. Clay litters may be able to infiltrate the incisions, causing irritation and possible infection.

#### EXERCISE AND ACTIVITY

Your cat is recovering from major surgery, so remember to limit their activity as much as possible. We recommend you keep him/her confined to a small area during the recovery period. **Discourage jumping of any kind.** Jumping may cause the incisions to open and require surgery to repair the damage. Normal activity may be resumed in 7-10 days.

#### SUTURES

\_\_\_ Absorbable suture were used to close the incisions made in your cat's paws; these will dissolve in 60-90 days.

\_\_\_ Surgical glue was used to close the incisions made in your cat's paws.

You should check each paw daily for any excessive swelling, redness or discharge. There should not be any bleeding. Call our office if any problems arise.

#### MONITOR

While we feel confident your cat will recover normally, there are risks associated with any episode of general anesthesia. Call our office if you note any abnormalities over the next week. These include, but are not limited to:

\*Loss of appetite for more than 2 days

\*Refusal to drink water for more than 1 day

\*Weakness or listlessness

\*Vomiting

#### MEDICATION

Your cat has been prescribed **Metacam** for control of pain and inflammation. Give contents of 1 syringe by mouth daily in the \_\_\_\_\_ until gone. Start \_\_\_\_\_.

Thank you for choosing us to care for your cat!