

Northern Illinois Cat Clinic, P.C.

Rebecca J. Schmidt, D.V.M.

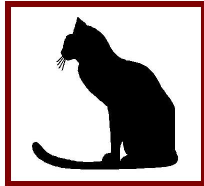
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CARE FOLLOWING DECLAW

Your cat has received an anesthetic in order to have a surgery. Each patient is unique and we have chosen a set of anesthetic agents appropriate to the health issues that *your* particular cat faces. Since we choose the safest agents for each individual, each patient may receive a slightly different anesthetic protocol. Some cats may have injectable medications, some may have gas anesthetic and some may have both.

Here are some recommendations to follow after an anesthetic procedure:

- 1. Your cat may feel disoriented, and not recognize you right away, so approach him or her slowly and quietly.**
- 2. One of your cat's legs may have a shaved area with a bandage on it. This is where the I.V. (intravenous) catheter was placed to administer medications. You may remove the bandage after 2-4 hours at home. (And, yes, kitty's fur will grow back!)**
- 3. Do not use scoopable or clay cat litter for 5-7 days. Use torn newspaper, paper towels, popcorn kernels, dried beans, or a pelted litter like "Yesterday's News" to give them something to scratch in.**
- 4. Discourage jumping up and down on things for 1-2 weeks as it can cause pain and bleeding.**

- 5. If a paw starts to bleed, you can apply very light pressure with a clean cloth or tissue for 5 minutes. Or, you can place your cat into his carrier with a towel for 30-60 minutes.**

- 6. Your cat's paws will be tender for 1-2 weeks if they are under 5 pounds and 3-4 weeks for bigger cats.**

- 7. Each cat experiences pain differently and if your cat isn't eating well, seems quiet and withdrawn, or refuses to walk, please call us so we can provide more pain relief.**

- 8. Please call the clinic if your cat is still limping or walking "flat footed" 3 weeks after the surgery or if the paw is swollen or if there is any discharge from the paw.**