



Wound Care

No two wounds are exactly the same and there is a multitude of ways to treat them. Each pet/wound will have its own individual treatment plan that may need to change based on the pet's response. This can be very confusing and frustrating for the pet owner so please do not hesitate to ask if you have questions and/or concerns during your pet's treatment.

ATTENTION

Most wounds will look worse before they look better!!! This is normal and a part of the body's natural healing process!

Surgical Repair:

- ~ Some wounds can be sutured or stapled back together neatly
- ~ Recovery time of 10-14 days
- ~ This can only be done on "fresh" wounds – within 24 hours

Debridement:

- ~ Surgical removal of dead or dying tissue from wound
- ~ This allows healthy tissue to either be sutured together or start growing/healing

Tissue Granulation:

- ~ Some wounds must heal "on their own" from the inside – out
- ~ Body produces new "healthy" tissue to fill in the open wound
- ~ This new tissue will be light red or dark pink in color
- ~ Will appear soft, moist, and bumpy
- ~ Recovery time depends on the size of the wound
- *Very common to take 4-6 weeks for full recovery*

Hydrotherapy:

- ~ Running warm water over wound to promote tissue repair
- ~ Keeps wound clean of debris and washes away dead tissue
- ~ Treat for 10-15 minutes twice daily until skin looks normal
- ~ Do NOT scrub the area!

Laser Therapy:

- ~ Use of specific wavelengths of light (red & near infrared)
- ~ Non-invasive & painless treatment to promote optimal healing
- ~ Increases circulation that draws water, oxygen and nutrients to the treated area
- ~ Reduces pain, swelling, inflammation and healing time

Note: some wounds may require a combination of the above treatments to fully treat and heal.