



Anal Sacculectomy (Anal Gland Removal)

Discharge Instructions: Dog

Provided by your Primary Veterinary Clinic on behalf of H&M VetSurg

Clinic Name/Phone: [Primary Clinic: Insert Name and Phone Number Here]

Patient: [Pet's Name] **Procedure:** Anal Sacculectomy (Removal of Anal Glands) **Surgeon:** Hani M Korani, DVM, DACVS-SA

Your dog has undergone a successful Anal Sacculectomy performed by Dr. Korani. This surgery removes the diseased anal glands. **Strict confinement** and diligent monitoring of the perianal incision site are **absolutely critical** for successful healing, as the area is easily contaminated during defecation.

1. General Recovery & Confinement

Your dog must be kept quiet to prevent excessive straining or rubbing of the surgical site.

- **Confinement:** Your dog must be kept on **strict rest** in a secure, small space (crate, pen, or small room) for the entire **10–14 day recovery period**.
- **Activity:** **No running, jumping, rough play, or scooting on the rear.** Limit all outdoor time to slow, controlled **leash walks** for elimination only.
- **Anesthesia Effects:** Expect your dog to be tired and unsteady for the first **12–24 hours**.

2. Pain Management & Medications

Pain control is essential to prevent straining or discomfort during bowel movements.

- **Prescribed Medications:** Administer all medications exactly as prescribed by your primary veterinarian.
 - **Pain Relief:** [Name of medication, e.g., Gabapentin/Tramadol] – [Dose and Frequency]
 - **Anti-Inflammatory (NSAID):** [Name of NSAID, e.g., Carprofen] – [Dose and Frequency]
 - **Antibiotic (Crucial):** [Name of antibiotic] – [Dose and Frequency] (To prevent wound infection.)
- **Crucial Warning:** **NEVER** give your dog human medication, especially NSAIDs (Advil, Aleve) or Tylenol (Acetaminophen).

3. 🐾 Defecation and Stool Management (CRITICAL)

The surgical incision is located in a high-contamination area. It is critical to keep stools soft and prevent straining.

- **Soft Stools (MANDATORY):** Your dog must pass **soft, formed stools** easily. Straining can tear the delicate sutures.
 - **Prescribed Softener:** Administer the **stool softener/laxative** [Name of medication, e.g., Lactulose/Miralax] as prescribed by your primary veterinarian, starting immediately.
 - **Diet:** Continue feeding the prescribed **bland diet** or easily digestible food for the first 5–7 days.
- **Cleaning After Defecation:** The owner **must** gently clean the perianal area after **every bowel movement** using lukewarm water and gentle soap (like baby wash) or fragrance-free pet wipes. **Pat dry thoroughly.**

4. 🩹 Incision and Suture Care (Perianal)

The incision is located immediately to the side of the anal opening.

- **Licking Prevention (E-Collar):** The Elizabethan collar (cone) is **mandatory**. Your dog **must** wear the cone **24 hours a day** for the full **10–14 day recovery period** until the sutures are removed/healed. Licking or scooting will cause severe infection and potentially permanent damage.
- **Daily Inspection:** Check the incision site twice daily.
 - **Normal:** Slight redness, mild swelling, and minor bruising are expected.
 - **Abnormal:** Contact your primary veterinarian immediately if you notice **foul odor, the incision opening up, or profuse drainage/discharge.**
- **Bathing:** Do not bathe your dog or allow the incision to get wet until after the final recheck appointment.

5. Emergency Warning Signs (Call Immediately)

The two primary complications are infection/dehiscence and fecal incontinence (temporary or permanent).

- **Severe Straining/No Defecation:** If your dog strains forcefully without producing stool for more than 24 hours, contact your primary veterinarian immediately.
- **Fecal Incontinence:** It is **common** for dogs to experience **temporary fecal incontinence** (inability to control bowel movements) for 3–7 days post-surgery due to swelling and manipulation of the area. This usually resolves. **Report severe or persistent incontinence** lasting more than one week.
- **Other Warning Signs:**
 - **Profuse Bleeding** from the incision.
 - **Severe Lethargy** or weakness.
 - **Pale or white gums.**

6. Follow-Up Appointments

Follow-up appointments are mandatory to monitor healing and assess the function of the area. Please schedule these with your primary veterinary clinic.

- **Suture Check/Removal (10–14 Days Post-Surgery):** This appointment is for assessing incision healing, monitoring soft stool use, and removing any external sutures or staples.
- **Final Recheck (4–6 Weeks Post-Surgery):** A final check to assess long-term function and confirm the complete absence of post-surgical complications.

Post-Surgical Support

For all routine questions, medication refills, or urgent concerns, please contact **your primary veterinary clinic** at the number listed above.

H&M VetSurg (Specialist Contact): Dr. Korani is available for specific surgical complications or specialist consultation via your primary veterinarian.

- **Specialist Phone:** 415-853-7600
- **Specialist Email:** dr.korani@hmvetsurg.coM