



Country View Animal Hospital

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Canine Castration Surgery

In male animals, castration (neutering) involves the removal of the testicles.

The procedure in dogs requires general anesthesia to induce complete unconsciousness. The dog will receive a pre-anesthetic sedative/analgesic (pain reliever) drug to help him relax. An IV (intravenous) catheter is placed to administer fluids and medications. A brief intravenous anesthetic is given to allow placement of a breathing tube in the windpipe, and subsequently inhalation (gas) anesthesia in oxygen is used during the actual surgery.

Following induction of anesthesia, with the dog lying on his back, the hair in front of the scrotum is clipped and the skin is scrubbed with surgical soap to disinfect the area. The dog may receive a testicular nerve block to reduce pain. The dog is then moved into our surgery suite where another sterile scrub is performed. A sterile drape is placed over the surgical site. An incision is made in between the penis and the scrotum using a surgical blade or laser, then the testicles are exteriorized through the incision. The spermatic cords are clamped and tied off with sterile suture and the testicles are removed with the scalpel or laser. The incision is closed typically using buried absorbable suture and tissue glue, which eliminates the need for suture removal.

The procedure takes about 30-45 minutes to perform in most cases, including the time needed for preparation and anesthesia. In adult or large-breed dogs the procedure can take longer and has an increased risk of bleeding and postoperative complications.

The *benefits* of this surgery include: reduced risk of testicular cancer, elimination of the ability to impregnate female dogs (can take up to 30 days for full sterility in mature dogs), decreased marking, mounting and roaming behavior.

The overall *risks* of this surgery in a healthy young dog are low. The major risks are those of general anesthesia (drug reactions, decreased blood pressure/temperature, regurgitation, aspiration pneumonia and cardiac arrest) which can lead to death, bleeding (hemorrhage) ranging from mild to severe, postoperative infection and wound breakdown (dehiscence) over the incision as well as swelling or seroma at the site. The overall complication rate is low, but serious complications can result in death or the need for additional surgery at the owner's expense.

The post-operative home care requires giving pain medication and reduced activity for 14 days. The incision should be inspected daily for signs of redness, discharge, swelling or pain. The patient also needs to be prevented from licking at the incision. In general patients go home the same day.

Surgical/Anesthetic Options: Please initial your choice for each option.

Pre-Anesthetic Blood Work: Complete blood count and chemistry panel to evaluate for any pre-existing conditions that may increase your pet's anesthetic or surgical risk. This is strongly recommended for ALL patients undergoing anesthesia and surgery.

_____ I accept pre-anesthetic lab work (cost: \$66.00)

_____ I decline pre-anesthetic lab work and understand that my pet may have underlying disease that may go undetected

Laser Surgery: We have the ability to use a surgical laser rather than a scalpel blade for most routine procedures. This may decrease bleeding, swelling, and postoperative pain.

_____ I elect laser surgery for my pet (cost: \$75.00)

_____ I decline laser surgery

Therapeutic Laser Treatment: This treatment can be performed on your pet's incision(s) postoperatively to reduce pain and aid in the healing process on a cellular level.

_____ I elect therapeutic laser treatment for my pet (cost: \$13.50)

_____ I decline therapeutic laser treatment

Microchip Permanent Identification: A microchip is a means of permanent identification that is implanted under the skin. If your pet is lost, your pet may be reconnected with you via the use of a chip scanner (most veterinary clinics, shelters and rescue organizations have one of these scanners).

_____ I elect to have my pet microchipped (cost: \$51.75)

_____ I decline microchipping

Consent for Anesthesia and Surgery

I, the undersigned, am the owner or authorized agent of the pet listed below, and am at least 18 years of age. I elect to have this pet undergo the anesthetic and surgical procedure listed below, and declare that I understand the procedure along with associated benefits and risks (up to and including death) as outlined above, and I have had the opportunity to have my questions regarding the procedure answered.

Client Name (print): _____ Client Signature: _____

Pet's Name: _____ Date: _____

Species: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Sex: _____

Surgical Procedure(s): _____

Additional Services:

Phone number where you can be reached today: _____

My pet has had food withheld for a minimum of 8 hour: Yes _____ No _____

My pet's current medications/supplements:

Dose

Last given

Veterinarian Name: _____

Veterinarian/Technician Signature: _____ Date: _____