



Canine Ovariohysterectomy/Neuter

The decision to spay or neuter your pet should be taken seriously. You will want to consider many factors in making this decision.

Some important benefits of the surgeries to consider are:

- lessens the chance of certain types of reproductive tract diseases including cancer
- eliminates heat cycles in females
- decreases tendency to roam
- prevents unwanted litters

These surgeries are performed frequently and complications are few. However, we would like to stress that no procedure is "routine". Each pet is a unique individual and may respond differently to anesthesia and surgery. To detect and prevent problems we:

- require all dogs over 6 months of age have a current negative heartworm test result
- require that vaccinations be current
- require that a comprehensive examination has been performed within the last 6 months
- use an EKG cardiac monitor, a doppler blood pressure monitor and a pulse oximeter during surgery
- use sterile procedures before and during surgery
- place an intravenous catheter for easy access to the bloodstream in case of emergency and administer IV fluids to maintain blood pressure and hydration.
- use gas anesthesia
- use a warm water circulating heating blanket to keep your pet's body temperature as close to normal as possible
- have a Certified Veterinary Technician constantly monitoring your pet's condition during surgery and monitoring for any complications while your pet is recovering
- use local analgesic blocks and pain medication routinely for all surgical patients and dispense Rimadyl or Metacam for pain relief at home
- place absorbable stitches under the skin which will dissolve on their own
- trim nails at no additional charge
- recommend pre-surgical screening tests
- Limited Blood Evaluation and Limited Chemistry Profile - further evaluates your pet's health by checking for anemia, dehydration, infection, clotting problems, liver and kidney disorders.
- Urinalysis & Complete Chemistry Profile in addition to above tests are recommended for pets older than three years of age.
- make every effort to ensure your pet a comfortable stay at our hospital

At the time of your pet's surgery other important procedures can also be performed if necessary:

- ear cleaning, extraction of any retained deciduous teeth, screening for canine hip dysplasia or flushing tear ducts to determine causes of increased tearing in the eyes
- umbilical or inguinal hernia repair, dewclaw removal and various other procedures that require anesthesia

We recommend that your pet be spayed/neutered at six months of age. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to call.

