

CASTRATION IN DOGS

Client Information Series

Castration is the surgical removal of the testicles. This surgery is performed to eliminate sexual activities and render the dog sterile.

Your dog will be given a preoperative physical examination to help ensure its safety during anesthesia and surgery. Recovery is generally uneventful, and the aftercare is minimal. Surgery is usually performed at 4 ½ - 9 months of age.

What are the advantages?

- Eliminates annoying sexual behavior such as lifting his leg to “mark” his territory both indoors and outdoors, and mounting legs and furniture.
- Prostate infection and cancer, a dangerous and commonly seen problem of older, intact males, is reduced. Testicular cancer is eliminated.
- Reduces the chances of your pet biting or being aggressive towards other dogs and humans. Statistics show that most dog bites are inflicted by unneutered males. However, castration is not a replacement for obedience training by the owner.
- Helps control the pet population crisis by avoiding unwanted pregnancies.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Will my dog get fat and lazy? No. Obesity is due to excessive calorie intake. Weight can be controlled with proper nutrition and exercise.
2. Will my dog’s personality change? No. Neutering will only help to make them a calmer more devoted pet. Dog’s personalities do not fully develop until 1-2 years of age. If there is a personality change in a dog neutered at a young age, it probably would have occurred without the surgery.

Important Considerations

Prior to surgery your dog should have a thorough physical exam and should be free of any external (fleas) and internal (worms) parasites. All vaccinations should be up to date.

“Caring for your pets...as if they were our own”