

Information for patient owners

Aftercare for castrations and other surgeries

A castration is a medical procedure in which the ovaries and possibly the uterus or the testicles are removed (Sterilization = Uterine tubes are severed or tied / Vasectomy = Deferent ducts are severed or tied). The following points should be noted to ensure an optimal aftercare of the patients:

- When your pet arrives at home, please note that a freshly operated patient may be prone to being cold or being sensitive to light and sound. Provide your pet with a comfortable bedding and blanket on the floor at room temperature. Keep the room dimmed. Do not isolate your pet from its usual environment. Stay close by so you can support your pet should it need assistance.
- During the operation, your pet will be infused with fluids, so that its fluid requirement is sufficiently covered. Water may only be offered once the animal is fully awake. Leave the water bowl in its usual place and do not force your pet to drink. It is possible that your pet may feel slightly nauseated due to the medications given during the operation. Food should only be offered about 8 hours after the procedure. Please only give a small amount of food and observe whether your pet vomits. Only if the food is tolerated well should you feed normally. For the time being, it is unproblematic if your pet refuses its food.
- Dogs and cats are often restless after anesthesia and may tremble, whine and howl while they are waking up. This is harmless and has nothing to do with pain, but rather with the aftereffects of the anesthesia. These reactions may last until the medications are completely metabolized by the body (several hours). If your pet shows these reactions for an overly long period of time, we suggest administering additional pain medication as advised.
- During anesthesia, your pet may be intubated for the so called inhalation anesthesia. This form of anesthesia enables an exact regulation of the anesthesia, is gentler for your pet and allows ventilation, should this become necessary. After the intubation, the windpipe may be slightly irritated and your pet may cough, wheeze and produce mucus as a result for 1 to 2 days after the procedure.
- Postoperative pain medication is necessary for at least 2 days. We will consult you in this regard and provide you with the required medications.
- The surgery wound is either covered with silver spray or an adhesive bandage. The wound may not get moist or dirty over a period of 2 weeks. Licking or chewing of the wound (also by other animals) must be avoided using a toby collar, a bandage covering the abdomen or a protective shirt. Swelling can occur in the vicinity of the wound. In case you notice wound secretion or massive swelling, or if your pet develops a fever, please contact us immediately. In rare cases, a few drops of blood may leak from the vagina or the wound.
- Due to the inhibited and slowed bodily functions, it is possible that your pet does not defecate on the day of the surgery, even while experiencing pressure in the lower abdomen. Urine must however be eliminated on the same day. If this does not occur within a few hours after the surgery, please contact us.

- In order to ensure optimal healing of the surgery wound, it is important that your pet does not overexert itself for at least 2 weeks. Important: No traction may be exerted on the wound! Your pet should stay inside and dogs should only be taken outside for short distances. Keep your dog on a short leash for at least 10 days after the surgery. If possible, your pet should not climb more than the usual number of stairs and all jumping should be avoided. Toys, climbing or scratching trees should not be offered for the time being.
- Please present your animal 1 to 3 days after the procedure so that we can evaluate the healing process. Existing stitches or staples are removed 10-14 days after the castration. At this point, the wound should be dry and well healed.

Please contact us if the general condition of your pet is impaired after the anesthesia using the telephone number (030) 33 93 76 00 (Berlin-Charlottenburg) oder (03322) 42 6464 (Falkensee), oder via email at praxis@tierarzt-rosin.de.