



Castration post- surgery information

Castration in cats involves two small scrotal surgical incisions and the removal of both testicles. Whilst routinely performed, it is very important to follow post-surgery instructions to allow your pet to heal well.

Tonight

- When you pick up your pet today you may notice the following:
- He may be more drowsy than normal due to the anaesthesia and pain relief medication administered. It is important that he be kept indoors tonight in a warm, quiet place where he can be monitored and allowed to rest. Please only offer him half his usual meal tonight and water. If he does not wish to eat tonight that can be normal.
- He may have a small cotton band-aid on one of his fore (or occasionally hind) legs where access to the vein was obtained. Please remove this after 2 hours of picking him up from the clinic.
- The wounds, which are on the scrotum and do not require stitches may appear mildly bruised or there may be slight bleeding from the wounds. It is not normal however for the wounds to continuously drip blood or for there to be bleeding or bruising developing elsewhere on the body. These findings could indicate a clotting/bleeding disorder. If this is noted please contact the clinic immediately.

Day 1

- Please start the medication/s as directed on the label/s.

Day 7-10

- Please revisit the clinic for assessment of healing of the wounds and determine whether your pet is allowed to return to normal activity.

Wound care

It is very important that your cat's wounds be well cared for to allow optimal healing and prevent potential complications like infection or break down of the wounds. This can be done by following the subsequent steps from pick up after surgery until the wounds are confirmed to be healed at the revisit.

- Do not allow him to lick or chew at his surgical wounds. We recommend he wears an Elizabethan collar if he is likely or noted to do so. This can be purchased from the clinic. This should be left on at all times until the revisit. Soft collar options are available for cats which allow for eating and drinking whilst wearing the collar.
- It is not recommended to cover the wounds with any dressings at home or apply any creams or lotions to the wounds unless instructed to by your veterinarian.
- Do not bathe him or allow him to swim or get wet until otherwise instructed.
- Keep him quiet. Prevent free play and running until the wounds are confirmed to be healed. If he is usually active it may be necessary to confine him to a small area such as the bathroom or laundry.
- Please prevent him from jumping as much as possible (e.g. onto beds, couches and scratching posts) as this may slow healing of the wounds.

Problems to monitor for

- In most cases with good aftercare no complications will develop. However, it is important to monitor for the following concerns:
- Being very dull and listless at any time but especially after the first 24 hours
- Very pale pink or white gums
- Not starting to eat or drink the day following surgery
- Vomiting, diarrhoea or straining to go to the toilet
- Redness, swelling, lumps or severe bruising around the surgical wounds
- More than a few drops of blood or clear fluid from the surgical wounds or any pus from the wounds
- Redness, swelling or discharge on the leg where the band-aid was located

If any of these are noted or you have any other concerns at all please do not hesitate to contact the clinic to chat to one of our nurses or vets. If you have any concerns outside of clinic hours please contact the Animal Emergency Centre in Hallam on 8795 7020.

Please make an appointment for your cat's revisit with our reception staff at discharge or by calling us. We all look forward to seeing you in 7-10 days.