



Spay and Neuter Information

Spaying and neutering are common veterinary procedures done when pets are around 6 months old. They are performed under general anesthetic and have many health and behavioural benefits.

Not only does spaying and neutering help control pet over-population, it also eliminates the chance of many medical issues associated with hormonal imbalances.

Spaying

Female pets undergo a procedure called an ovariectomy, or spay. This is an abdominal surgery that involves the removal of both ovaries and the uterus.

Non-spayed females can be at risk of life-threatening uterine infections, mammary gland tumours, and ovarian cysts.

Neutering

Male pets go through an orchidectomy, or neuter. This procedure involves the removal of both testicles.

Unneutered pets are more likely to roam, exhibit aggressive behaviour, and may be at risk of prostate or testicular cancer.

The Day of Surgery

In preparation for your pet's surgery, they will need to be fasted after 9pm the night before. When they arrive at the clinic in the morning, the doctor will perform a pre-surgical exam to ensure the pet is in good health.

Pre-surgical bloodwork is strongly recommended, as it provides information on systemic health and organ function, which is important to note before undergoing the stress of anesthesia and surgery. Bloodwork can also help the doctor detect internal disease processes that may not be showing outward symptoms.

An injection is given which provides sedation and pain control. Next, an intravenous catheter is placed to administer fluids which help to maintain the pet's blood pressure and allow a smooth recovery by flushing the anesthetic from their body. The catheter also allows us to administer any medications quickly should they be needed.

Next, an endotracheal tube is placed to deliver inhalant anesthesia throughout the procedure. The surgery is performed by the veterinarian and the pet is monitored closely by a technician.

During the surgery we can also supply a method of identification in case your pet ever gets lost. This can be in the form of an ear tattoo (for identification in B.C.) or microchip (for identification in Canada and the U.S.).

Upon recovery, your pet will be placed in a warm kennel and monitored closely for the remainder of their stay. Post-operative pain control will be given to ensure their comfort.