



PLEASE PICK UP YOUR PET BETWEEN 4PM AND 5PM TODAY

Vasectomy Home Care Information

Thank you for having your pet sterilized and helping to address the pet overpopulation problem in Colorado. We strongly recommend that you establish a wellness program for your pet with a regular, full-service veterinarian.

**PLEASE NOTE: Your dog may have residual sperm for as long as two weeks after surgery.
Use caution around female dogs!**

Vasectomy is a sterilization surgery, the testicles are not removed, therefore testosterone, the male sex hormone which stimulates "male" behaviors in the dog, is still produced. To all intents and purposes the dog will remain "fully male" but will be unable to father puppies on the females he mates with. He will continue to show male behaviors such as aggression and marking of territory, if he encounters a female in heat he will try to breed her.

Because his testicles are still present, he will be considered an intact male by city/county licensing entities (meaning higher fees for licensing). He will still be at risk for testicular cancer and hormone induced prostate disease. The vasectomy surgery is not intended to be reversible.

Post-operative care is simple, but important in helping your dog with recovery.

- 🐾 Please give pain medication as directed on the package, starting on the morning after surgery.
- 🐾 Your dog may be groggy and wobbly tonight. This is normal; recovery from anesthesia is affected by the size and age of the animal.
- 🐾 It has been a long day for your dog, consider a short potty walk before getting into the car (we have poop bags available at the front desk). Do not leave your dog unattended in the yard tonight as his reflexes may be off due to the effects of the anesthesia.
- 🐾 Please do not expose your dog to loud noises or too much activity. Your dog will recover most quickly in a warm, quiet environment.
- 🐾 You may offer food and water tonight however your dog may not eat. This is normal. Your dog's appetite should return to normal by tomorrow. If your dog's eating habits have not returned to normal within 48 hours following surgery, please contact us.
- 🐾 A small amount of vomiting and/or diarrhea may occur after surgery. If vomiting/diarrhea is severe or bloody, if your dog acts like it feels bad or cannot find a comfortable place to rest please contact your local 24 hour veterinary clinic.
- 🐾 Please restrict exercise as much as possible for the first 5 to 7 days to allow the incision to start healing. Walks should be short and on leash, gradually working back into your normal routine.
- 🐾 Bruising of the skin around the incision, scrotum and prepuce is not uncommon after vasectomy, and may be extensive. Unless the dog is painful, lethargic or the area begins to look infected, bruising will generally resolve in 10-14 days without treatment. If you think the area is infected please call for a recheck.
- 🐾 Your dog has sutures under the skin. These sutures do not need to be removed. Please check your dog's incision site at least once per day. If you note any bright red blood or other discharge from the incision, please contact us or your family veterinarian.
- 🐾 Please be sure to keep the incision site dry (no swimming or bathing) for at least 10 days following surgery this is very important to prevent the suture material from dissolving prematurely which could cause the incision to open.
- 🐾 If your dog is constantly licking the incision site, please use an E-collar for 5 to 7 days. **The collar should extend at least 2 inches beyond your pet's nose, tight enough to prevent your pet from pulling it off but loose enough to allow normal breathing and swallowing.** E-collars can be purchased from most pet supply stores.

**ALL PETS SHOULD BE OBSERVED FOR THE FIRST
12 to 24 HOURS FOLLOWING SURGERY
303-984-7729**

- 🐾 SpayToday is open from 7 am to 5:30 pm on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. If you are concerned about your pet, please call during business hours or leave a message on our machine.
- 🐾 If we are not open and you feel the problem is life threatening, call your family veterinarian or the nearest animal emergency clinic; please note that the cost of care given outside the SpayToday clinic will not be refunded.

SpayToday thanks the Animal Assistance Foundation for their generous support of our programs.