



NEUTERING YOUR PET

Brookside
VETERINARY HOSPITAL



Cedar Heights
PET CLINIC

***We would love to show you our entire facility.
Schedule a tour today!***

What is a Neuter?

A neuter, also known as a castration is a surgical procedure on male dogs and cats to render them infertile.

How is a Neuter Performed?

A neuter is a sterile surgical procedure performed under general anesthesia. Once asleep, your pet's surgical site will be shaved and scrubbed using a germicidal surgical solution. During the procedure, both testicles are removed. The blood vessels that supply this organ is ligated and the skin layers are sutured close.

What are the Benefits of Neutering my Pet?

There are significant benefits to be gained from neutering your pet.

- Prevents unwanted pregnancy.
- Reduces the risks of testicular and prostatic cancer. Neutering before 6 months of age significantly reduces the risk of these diseases.
- Prevents your pet from roaming in search of an in heat female. An intact male will do just about anything to find a mate! When an intact male senses a female in heat he can become very destructive trying to find a way to her.
- Behavioral benefits. Neutered pets focus their attention on their human families. On the other hand, unneutered pets may mark their territory. Some aggressive problems can be avoided by neutering your pet when they are young.

How do I prepare my Pet for a Neuter?

- No food or water after 10 pm the night before surgery.
- If your pet is on any medications, please consult your veterinarian about if/when to administer.

Surgery Day

- We like to have our surgery patients dropped off between 8-9 am on the day of surgery.
- We recommend Pre-anesthetic blood tests for all procedures that require an general anesthesia. This testing helps the doctor identify any problems that may increase the risk of anesthesia and surgery. These results also aid the doctor in determining the appropriate anesthesia plan for your pet.
- We perform most surgeries in the morning. We will do our best to keep you updated during your pet's stay and are happy to have you call and check in at any point.
- All of our patients are administered appropriate pain management.





At Home Care After Surgery

- Food and water. Start slow. Smaller more frequent meals and limited access to large amounts of water can help prevent your pet from getting sick when they first return home.
- Incision. Your pet may or may not have skin sutures. Look at your pet's incision when he is dismissed from the hospital. Watch the incision line and the skin around it for increased redness, heat, or any discharge. Call the hospital if you see any changes. The incision should be kept dry for 10 days.
- Activity. The doctor may make specific recommendations, but pet's should be on a leash when outside for the first 7 days. Running, jumping, and stairs should be avoided for 7-10 days.
- Medications. Be sure to give any prescribed medications as directed.

Not all Neuters are the same!

A neuter is one of the most common procedures performed in a veterinary hospital. Consequentially, a neuter is one of the most shopped for veterinary surgeries. We often have people call and ask about our price for this procedure. Understand that although this procedure is considered routine, there are many things that need to be considered. Unfortunately in Iowa, there is not a Veterinary Standard of Care. In other words, comparing the cost of this procedure is not always apples to apples.

There are some things must be absolutely standard in every neuter, regardless of the cost. Unfortunately, this is not the case in our area.

- Pain medication and gas anesthesia should be used on every patient. Believe it or not, some veterinary clinics rely on injectable anesthetic agents which are highly unpredictable and difficult to manage.
- Sterile and clean surgical instruments. An autoclave to properly sterilize surgical instruments should be the standard. Unfortunately, in our area it is not.
- Dedicated sterile surgical space. Ask to see where the procedure will be performed!
- Surgical monitoring systems. We are able to monitor all the essential levels including; % of oxygenation in blood, blood pressure, CO2 levels, electrocardiogram, temperature, and respiration rate. Our monitors are no different than the ones used in human surgery. Some veterinary clinics do not have any form of monitoring. Ask!
- Pre-Anesthetic blood testing. We have a full lab suite in house.

