

## Neutering- Feline

Castration, or neutering, is the surgical removal of the testicles from the scrotum of a male animal. Neutering a sexually immature dog or cat inhibits the development of mating and roaming behavior. Because these instincts are diminished, a neutered pet is usually more compatible with people and easier to train than an animal that has not been neutered. The surgery also prevents undesirable behaviors associated with cryptorchidism. Cryptorchidism occurs when one or both testicles fail to descend and are retained in the abdomen or the inguinal canal, which leads from the abdomen to the scrotum. If the retained testicle is not removed during castration, the pet may still exhibit behaviors associated with mating, though it probably will prove infertile. In addition, tumors may develop in a retained testicle.

Once a male cat reaches puberty, he will develop a number of behavioral changes that will make him a less desirable pet. He will become territorial and start to mark areas, even inside the house, by spraying urine. This urine has a particularly offensive odor that is difficult to remove. As the tomcat reaches sexual maturity, he will start to enlarge his territory. By increasing the size of his territory, he increases the likelihood that he will encounter other cats and get into fights for territorial dominance. The longer an un-neutered cat sprays and fights, the less likely neutering will stop these behaviors. Fight wounds can result in severe infections and abscesses. Diseases such as FIV and FeLV, which cause immunosuppression and AIDS-like syndromes, are spread through cat bites. These incurable diseases tend to be more common in non-neutered male cats. Lastly, humane societies and animal shelters are overrun with unwanted kittens and cats. Neutering decreases the number of needless deaths and homeless animals.

We use anesthesia for your pet's well being. The procedure includes an Intravenous catheter with fluid therapy, outpatient hospitalization, anesthesia, pain relief, operating room use and supplies, the procedure, and monitoring throughout the entire procedure. Additionally, we recommend pre-anesthetic blood work. We offer two choices when it comes to this blood work.

We offer a basic blood work up, called a Profile #1, that includes:

- Complete Blood Count (CBC)
- BUN and Creatinine (Kidneys)
- ALP & ALT (Liver)
- Blood Glucose (Sugar levels)
- TP (Hydration)
- Sodium & Potassium levels

We also offer what we call a Profile #2. This is a more in-depth blood work up. This profile includes everything that is in a Profile #1 as well as the following tests:

- Cholesterol
- Bilirubin (Liver)
- Phosphorus (Kidneys)
- Chloride
- Albumin (Protein)
- Calcium (Certain Cancers)
- Amylase (Pancreas)
- Globulin (Immune status)
- Total T-4 (Thyroid function)

The above testing can be done during an appointment or the day of surgery.

Once the surgery is complete, your pet will be monitored closely until fully recovered. Once they are awake, we will call you with an update and to schedule a discharge time with you. Usually, pet's are sent home the same day. There is no suture removal with this surgery.