

## Ovariohysterectomy- Feline

An over hysterectomy, or spay, is the surgical removal of the uterus and ovaries from the abdomen of a female animal. This surgery is the only foolproof method of birth control for female dogs and cats. It is permanent and the spayed pet no longer goes through heat cycles.

Spaying also ends several problems associated with heat including:

- ☺ Prevention of "heat" or estrus. When in "heat", the female experiences an urge to escape in order to find a mate. This unwanted and dangerous behavior is eliminated.
- ☺ Elimination of the hormone fluctuations that cause false pregnancy following the "heat cycle"
- ☺ Prevention of uterine infection known as *pyometra*.
- ☺ If your cat is spayed before her first heat cycle, there is less than ½ of 1% (0.5%) chance of developing breast cancer. With every subsequent heat cycle, the risk of developing breast cancer increases. After about 2½ years of age, ovariohysterectomy offers no protective benefit against developing breast cancer.
- ☺ Spaying eliminates the risk of ovarian and uterine cancers.
- ☺ Cats with diabetes or epilepsy should be spayed to prevent hormonal changes that may interfere with medications.
- ☺ Prevents difficult pregnancy and delivery in older or ill pets.

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. An e-collar may be provided, or you may request one, if your pet begins to chew or lick at the incision site.