

## Ovariohysterectomy- Canine

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*.
- ☺ Prevention of breast cancer. Dogs spayed before their first "heat" have less than 0.5% chance of developing breast cancer. Elimination of the risk of uterine and ovarian cancer.
- ☺ 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)

If your pet is over 7 months of age, we do require a 4DX test. This is a blood work that tests for Heartworm, Lyme Disease, Ehrlichiosis and Anaplasmosis. This test and the above blood work 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 and you will be asked to return in 12-14 days for us to remove the sutures at the surgery site. An e-collar may be provided, or you may request one, if your pet begins to chew or lick at the incision site.