

additional pain relief for you to administer at home for the next 3- 5 days.

Wound care

Your pet will be sent home with a buster collar or 'pet shirt' to prevent self trauma. Licking and chewing at wounds is the number one cause of complications, and can result in your pet requiring further treatment. The vets and nurse will explain how to avoid this. You do not need to clean the wound or apply any ointments at home (unless specific instructions are given).

What to expect

Your pet may be lethargic and more sleepy than usual that night, generally this has worn off by the morning. They will have a clipped patch of the foreleg, and sometime the neck. This is from the intravenous catheter we administer medicines through or blood test. Sometimes your pet may have an upset stomach, if you have any concerns please call us. One of the nurse will phone you within 24 hours or so to check all is well at home.

Resting your pet

You will need to keep females strictly rested for at least 14 days, and males rested for at least 7 days. Please do not allow your pet to swim/ bathe during this time either.

Can they eat and drink normally?

Once home your pet may want to eat, offer them some of the recovery food we have available or a small portion of their normal food.

Don't worry if they don't want to eat that night, but if they don't want breakfast give us a ring. Avoid rich treats.

Post Op Checks

We will want to see your dog at about 2-3 days and 10-14 days post op. You will generally see one of our qualified nurses, if they are concerned they will fetch one of the vets. The first check is to check all is well post anaesthetic & the wound is OK and the second is generally to remove any sutures and check the wound has healed as it should.

If you have a query?

If you have any queries please ring the reception team on the numbers below, they will either be able to help you direct, or pass your message onto the vets and nurses.

Discounts

Special discounted rates are available through our Folly Care Club, please ask for more details



12 Columbine Road, Walton Cardiff, Tewkesbury. GL20 7SP
Tel: 01684 292244

2 Church Road, Bishops Cleeve, Chelt. GL52 8LR
Tel: 01242 679880

1 Folly Gardens, Barton Road, Tewkesbury. GL20 5QP



www.follygardens.com



Neutering your dog

An independent, family owned practice, offering quality veterinary service & care.



What is neutering?

Neutering your dog is where the sex organs responsible for reproduction are removed, testes in males (castration) and the ovaries in females (spaying).

In male dogs the testes are surgically removed under general anaesthetic, a small incision is made just above the scrotum and just below the penis and the testicles removed. In female dogs, the ovaries and entire uterus are surgically removed via a midline incision which runs down from their 'belly' button. It is a much more invasive procedure for females, as we are going into the abdomen, and they need more aftercare than the boys! They will have internal sutures to close the muscle of the abdomen—these will dissolve, as well as sutures/stitches in the skin.

Some dogs will have skin stitches that need removing in 10 days or so, other will have dissolvable skin sutures—which we leave.

Your pet will be completely asleep during the procedure, and provided with lots of pain relief.

Are there any risks?

All general anaesthetics carry a small degree of risk. Your vets and nurse will perform a full clinical exam, and sometimes a blood test to minimise these risks further. We use the very latest anaesthetic drugs, and all staff are fully trained.

A 'bitch spay' although a routine procedure and performed regularly is major surgery and is not without risk. At your pre op exam, the vet will discuss these risks with you. Because we are dealing with large blood vessels and going into

the abdomen it is very important to time a spay procedure correctly and rest the patient properly post op.

Post op there is a small risk of infection, and wound breakdown. These risks are reduced dramatically by taking the steps recommended by the team. (see wound care.)

Are you required to make any special preparations?

You will need to starve your dog from 8pm the night before. They can keep their drinking water down until morning. You will need to be available to drop them off in the morning (generally between 8am and 9am) and pick them up in the evening (generally after 4pm and before 6.30pm).

What do I need to bring?

Please bring your dog into the practice on a lead. We will label it here so we know who it belongs too. You can bring a blanket or toy for your dog if you wish. We will provide special recovery food post op for your pet, if they have a food intolerance please let the team know.

When you arrive

If you have seen one of the vets very recently for your free of charge pre neutering exam and advice, one of the nurses will admit your pet in the morning. Sometimes if your pet has not seen the vet recently or at all, the vet will admit your pet and discuss the consent form with you instead. We generally try to admit patients

between 8am and 9am in the morning, but we can be flexible on this. You will go through the consent form with a member of staff. Have a chance to ask any questions and book a time to collect your pet later on in the day.

You will also be asked if you would like your pet microchipped whilst they are here, which we recommend for all pets.

What happens during the day?

Your dog will come through to the dog ward, where they will be examined by the vet. Any pre op blood samples will be taken and run, and your pet will receive a 'pre-med'. This is a combination of medicines that will help them relax, and make the anaesthetic safer. Your dog will then go through to the 'prep room' to receive their general anaesthetic, so they are completely asleep. Once in theatre your pet will have their surgery, which takes about 20-30 minutes for males, and about 30-50 minutes or so for females. Once the procedure is safely finished your pet will be taken to recovery, where they will be closely monitor until they are fully awake. Once the team are happy, your dog will go back to the ward to have some fuss and probably a well earned late breakfast! The nurses will then phone you to let you know all is well. You are welcome to phone for an update at any point, but generally we will phone you about lunchtime with an update.

Will your dog be uncomfortable?

Your dogs pain should be well controlled, like people some animals seem more painful than others, and we will tailor medicines to their individual needs. Your dog will be sent home with