

Pet Care After Castration

Your pet has been castrated which involved surgery in a very sensitive area, which therefore needs care for some time after the procedure. Unfortunately, animals do not understand that they need to rest, so we need you to assist us with your pet's recovery.

Immediately After the Procedure

When you collect your pet from our hospital he may be a little drowsy. This is quite normal following an anaesthetic and surgery. The drowsiness should reduce over the next 12–24 hours. There will be some bruising, so you can expect him to be a little quieter than normal for a few days. Keep your pet in a quiet, warm place and give only small amounts to eat and drink. He will be back to normal in a couple of days.

Important Care Tips

Most dogs and cats have recovered fully from the castration within a few days. Unfortunately, this does have some disadvantages, as your pet may start jumping, running around, and—unintentionally—doing everything she can to upset the surgery site and/or the stitches. Cats do not have stitches in a standard castration. Please try to keep your pet as quiet as possible over the following two weeks. Your pet should not be allowed to get the surgery site wet until it has completely healed.

Problems to Note

Generally, there are very few complications after the operation, however, here are the signs to watch for that may indicate a problem.

1. Dull and listless (especially after the first 24 hours);
2. Excessive redness or irritation around the wound;
3. Swelling or lumpiness around wound.

If you notice any of these signs, please do not hesitate to call the Bendigo Animal Hospital team on 5443-3322.

Note: Male dogs will need their stitches taken out in 14 days, so please arrange an appointment for that time-frame. One of our qualified veterinary nurses will check that the wound has healed appropriately, and remove the stitches.