Sterilization of Male Dogs by Vasectomy

Postoperative Instructions

Vasectomy is a method of sterilization that provides guaranteed inability to successfully breed, while maintaining normal male hormone levels. As with vasectomy in men, the sperm carrying tubes are ligated, while maintaining the testes. This is compared to a traditional castration, where the testes are removed, and male hormones are eliminated.

General Instructions

1. Watch the incision carefully for **swelling**, **discoloration**, or **discharge**. Small amounts of bruising and swelling are inevitable after this type of surgery, but the bruising and swelling should not increase after the first several days.

2. If possible, gently apply a **COLD compress** over the surgical area for 15 minutes at least **2-3 times per day for the first 3 days after surgery.**

3. Give **the antibiotic and pain medication** as directed until gone

4. Your dog should have an **Elizabethan collar** on if she starts to bother at the incision. This can be obtained from the hospital, if needed.

5. Exercise should be limited to short (1/4 mile) walks on a handheld lead for 10 days.

6. Bathing should be avoided for 10 days, until the incision is healed.

7. Please call if there are any additional questions or problems.

Specific instructions regarding vasectomy

Dogs that have received vasectomy for sterilization should be monitored for conditions typical of any intact male dog. Special consideration should be given to the prostate and testes. Dogs with prostate disease most frequently strain to urinate, have blood in their urine or have a thin or weak urine stream. The testes should be palpated monthly for masses or other irregularities.