

Bitch Spays

Pre-operative information for Ovariohysterectomy (Bitch Spay)

Before the procedure we would ask you to read this document carefully to give you (the owner) the information required for the elected procedure. Every surgical procedure that is undertaken carries accepted associated risks and complications. Although rare, we want you to be fully informed before you proceed.

The procedure your dog will be having today is called an Ovariohysterectomy or commonly called a bitch spay. This surgical procedure involves removing the ovaries and the uterus or womb. Once this procedure has been performed it cannot be reversed. Benefits to your dog include:

1. No unwanted pregnancies
2. No further bleeding from seasons
3. Eliminates the risk of a pyometra (womb infection)
4. Can reduce the risk of mammary cancer, although the effectiveness of this is dependent on the age at which this procedure is carried out.

Please read the following list of complications that can result from this procedure and ask a member of staff if you have any questions or concerns. This list is not exhaustive. We will discharge your dog with a buster collar, to be worn at all times, which can help reduce the incidence of post-operative complications. Should a complication arise, owners are liable for the costs associated with the complication.

1. Haemorrhage (bleeding) both during and after the procedure (inside or outside of the abdomen)
2. Wound breakdown partial or complete
3. Wound infection
4. Bruising and swelling
5. Seroma (pocket of fluid)
6. Damage to other internal organs
7. Suture site reaction
8. Peritonitis (infection inside the abdomen)
9. Herniation
10. Risk of injury on recovery post-operatively
11. Anaesthetic complication including death

We take great precautions to minimise the risks to your dog.