

277 WOODBOROUGH ROAD NOTTINGHAM NG3 4JT Telephone: 0115 969 1222 26-28 STATION ROAD, CARLTON NOTTINGHAM NG4 3AT Telephone: 0115 987 5665 WWW.OAKHOUSEVETS.CO.UK

Neutering of Dogs

Castration/Orchidectomy [males]

<u>Advantages</u>

Reduces if not stops sexual behaviour such as mounting people and inanimate objects, the dog is then less sexually frustrated especially around other dogs and better behaved. Reduces straying especially as a response to bitches in season and therefore reduces nuisance, unwanted litters and even the risk of road traffic accidents.

Prevents *testicular tumours* and reduces risk of *perianal adenomas*(benign tumour) plus most prostatic diseases.

Can treat some sexually motivated aggression problems but not a cure all for behavioural problems.

Disadvantages

Nothing significant, assume dogs activity level and metabolism may slow a little so reduce food intake by 15% post op or change to neutered dog diet to prevent weight gain. Working guide dogs are neutered and their weight is strictly managed so there is no excuse! Coat colour and texture can change a little, not obvious in most dogs.Timing

<u>Timing</u>

We are happy to castrate dogs from 6 months of age. Routine neutering can generally be carried out without significantly increased risk up to 6 years old.

Speying/Ovario-Hysterectomy [females]

Advantages

Prevents nuisance of the heat itself which is a stressful time for the bitch and the owners. Also prevents *False or Phantom Pregnancy* can cause in some dogs.

Prevents unwanted puppies.

Prevents life-threatening Pyometra(uterine/womb infection)

Greatly reduces risk of Mammary Tumours- the relative risk increases with each season.

Disadvantages

Weight gain- as for the male- no excuse!

Rarely *Urinary Incontinence* can be seen in neutered bitches - possibly due to weight issues no evidence that it's any more likely the earlier the neutering most cases are managed with medical treatment.



Timing

We are happiest to spey at 6 months old, prior to the first season, which usually happens between 6-12 months. Otherwise the spey needs to be at least 6 weeks after the end of the season and can wait until 1 month before she is due in season again.

Seasons usually happen every 6 months and can last from 2-4 weeks. If your bitch has a false pregnancy then we must wait until after the False Pregnancy has settled down before we can carry out the neutering.

Pre-Op

We discount routine neutering versus our usual surgical fees as we believe it is the right course of action for responsible dog ownership.

We advise you bring your pet in for a a free Adolescent Health Check at 6 months or a pre-neuter check at other ages, where we will talk through the procedure, the risks and what to expect post-op. We will provide a written estimate at the pre op consultation.

All operations take place at our Woodborough Road surgery, the dogs are admitted in the morning and are discharged by a nurse that evening.

Post-operative checks are usually performed by the nurses 2-3 days later then a final vet check a week later, the cost of these are included in the initial cost of the surgery.

Pet Health Club

The best way to save money on your dogs neutering is to join our Pet Health Club which alongside it's other benefits entitles you to a 10% discount on neutering & 25% off microchipping! Ask any member of staff for details or check out our website <u>www.oakhousevets.co.uk</u>.

We accept most neutering vouchers from RSPCA, CPL and councils, please mention that you have a voucher at the time of booking the operation..