

## **DOG CASTRATION**

Your dog has been castrated today. This involves the surgical removal of the testicles, and is performed in sterile conditions under a general anaesthetic. Now that you have him home, the following simple steps should ensure he feels more comfortable and to aid a speedy recovery.

It is likely that your dog will still be drowsy once you have him home, in fact he will probably relax in his home environment and rest comfortably for the rest of the evening. Some degree of swelling around the operation site and scrotum is inevitable and should go down given time. It is important to prevent your dog damaging the wound site- you may need to apply a Buster collar to stop any licking.

### FOOD AND WATER

Food and water may be offered the same evening. Please feed a bland diet such as Royal Canin Sensitivity Control, or Hills I/d tins. Normal feeding routines can be resumed the following day. Slight sickness may occur, however if this persists then please contact the surgery.

### EXERCISE

No exercise is recommended for at least 24 hours after the operation, then lead exercise only for 10 days.

### STITCHES

Try to prevent him licking the area excessively. It is advisable to use a buster collar.

- The stitches will need to be removed. Please bring him back for a recheck in 3 days and 10 days time.
- The stitches will dissolve so do not need to be removed. Please bring him back for a recheck in 3 days and 10 days time.

### COUGHING

You may notice a slight cough over the next couple of days. Do not be alarmed – it is usually due to an irritation at the back of the throat through intubation (a procedure used to keep the airway open during anaesthetic). If the coughing persists then consult the veterinary surgeon.

### LONG TERM WEIGHT CONTROL

Once your dog has recovered and the stitches have been removed, it is advisable to closely monitor his body weight. Neutered animals are susceptible to gains in weight. Adjustments in feeding may be necessary to prevent obesity becoming a problem. Your dog will be invited back in 6 months time for a free of charge weight check.