



Mount Vernon Animal Hospital  
8623 Richmond Hwy  
Alexandria, VA 22309  
United States  
(703) 360-6600  
mtvernonanimalhospital@gmail.com

## **POSTOP INSTRUCTIONS FOR NEUTERED MALE DOGS**

Following surgery, it is important that there be no running, jumping or hard playing for 10 days after surgery, until the incision is rechecked. Failure to enforce this may result in seromas (fluid swelling) in the scrotum or actual breakdown of the surgery site.

Dogs should be leash-walked only - they may not be allowed out in a fenced yard without supervision or allowed to play with housemates for that period of time. Elizabethan (cone) collars are applied for a reason, do not remove them unless you supervise your pet every minute! It is very easy for dogs to chew open their incisions if they are not collared. We understand it's an inconvenience, but it really is necessary. Your pet will be able to eat and sleep with the collar on until his recheck.

We have administered a long-acting pain management injection which should last 72 hours. We also dispense oral pain medications which you can start at 3 days, or sooner if your pet seems to be uncomfortable. Signs of discomfort include: restlessness, whining, panting, moving funny, reluctance to move and crying.

The incision area should be inspected daily for redness, swelling or discharge. Call our office if anything like this is seen. Some redness at the surgery site is normal, but if it looks more red than at discharge, call us. The surgery area should not be immersed in water unless absolutely necessary. If the surgery site gets dirty, you can clean it with a warm washcloth and mild soap, rinsing well. If there is adherent material in the incision, please bring him back so we can clean it appropriately.

Incisions are normally rechecked at 10 days. There are no skin stitches to remove. Even if you think it looks fine, we always like to check it and make sure everything is healed completely. Please call for an appointment for this, or make one at the time of discharge. There is no charge for this service, it is included with the surgery fees.

Neutering your dog will decrease his metabolic rate. Please plan to reduce food by 25% to prevent him from becoming overweight.

Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any issues/problems/questions - we're here to help!