

Castration Postoperative Care

Pineview Veterinary Hospital

Office # 910-655-2442 Emergency # 1-877-848-8989

Heidi F. Hart, DVM

Christine Long, DVM

- 1) Your horse has just undergone a minor elective surgery. It is important to monitor him over the next week for any signs of excessive bleeding, drainage, or swelling from the surgical site. It is also important to monitor his temperature each morning before any exercise is started. He will need to be on a controlled exercise program over the next week as well.
- 2) We recommend you keep your horse confined to a stall until tomorrow morning. Starting tomorrow, he needs to be exercised twice daily for 15-20 minutes either on a lunge line or another form of controlled exercise (not riding). Also, cold hose around the surgical site and down the legs twice daily. Do not spray the water up into the incision.
- 3) We started him on an oral antibiotic. If he goes off feed at any time over the next week please contact us.
- 4) He should be kept away from mares for the next 30 days. This is to avoid breeding accidents since he is still fertile for the next 30 days and also to avoid any increase in activity that may cause hemorrhaging from the surgical site.
- 5) Dripping from the surgical site is normal and encouraged for the first 24 hours to ensure proper drainage. However, a constant stream of blood or tissue hanging out of the surgical site more than an inch is considered an emergency. Please page us if this occurs.
- 6) His swelling should decrease over the next few days. If it does not, or if it gets worse, please contact us. If he is depressed or goes off feed please take his rectal temperature and then contact us (normal up to 102°F). If he shows any signs of colic please let us know right away as well.

If you have any questions or concerns do not hesitate to call us.