

Spay/Neuter Additional Options

Post-operative Sedation

We recommend that you keep your pet rested for two weeks following their surgery as this will help to reduce the potential for post-op complications. This can be a challenge for some rambunctious or anxious pets. We therefore offer the option of mild sedative medication that can be given orally at home as needed for up to two weeks after surgery to help with keeping your pet rested. The most common medications dispensed for this purpose are gabapentin and/or trazodone. Both are very safe and associated with minimal to no side effects. Cost is approximately \$25. Please let us know if you would like this dispensed for your pet.

- Yes, I think my pet would benefit from post-operative sedation
- No, I don't think post-operative sedation will be required for my pet

Dental Radiographs

Adult dogs typically have 42 teeth and adult cats typically have 30 teeth. If one of these teeth is missing it may be that it never developed (which is not a problem) or it may be that it is impacted under the gumline. If impacted, over time it can lead to the development of a cyst. If not detected early on, these cysts can cause severe damage to the bone and surrounding teeth. For this reason, it is recommended to x-ray the sites of missing teeth at an early age. If an impacted tooth is found early on, it can be removed before it causes problems. As these x-rays can only be taken when your pet is under general anesthesia, the time of your pet's spay/neuter procedure allows an ideal opportunity for this. *If impacted teeth are found, a separate anesthetic procedure will be recommended a few weeks later either at our clinic or at a specialty clinic if indicated.* We will not be able to accommodate extractions the day of your pet's spay or neuter due to time constraints and increased risks with combining the two procedures. Please indicate below if you would like us to x-ray any areas where teeth are missing in your pet.

- Yes, please x-ray the sites of any missing teeth (cost is \$25 per x-ray, max of \$150 if 6+ teeth are missing)
- No, please do not take any dental x-rays

Removal of retained baby teeth

In most pets the adult teeth are fully erupted by approximately 6 months of age. If the adult teeth are fully erupted and there are still baby (deciduous) teeth present, it is typically recommended to remove these to prevent them from causing problems later on. Extraction of these teeth requires general anesthesia, therefore, the time of your pet's spay/neuter is a convenient time to perform this procedure, if the doctor feels it is in the best interest of your pet at that time. If based on the progression of the adult dentition the doctor feels it is too soon to remove the deciduous teeth, they will not proceed with extraction today and this may need to be performed at a later time if the teeth do not eventually fall out on their own. Please indicate below if you would like us to remove any deciduous teeth if found to be present and your pet's doctor feels it is indicated:

- Yes, please remove any remaining deciduous teeth if indicated (cost ranges from \$50-75 per tooth)
- No, please do not remove any retained deciduous teeth

Screening Hip Radiograph (Dogs Only)

All dogs can suffer from a congenital genetic disease called hip dysplasia with larger dogs being more prone to the disorder. If we find evidence of this early on, there may be management steps that can be taken to help minimize problems throughout your pet's life. As hip x-rays are best taken when your pet is fully relaxed under general anesthesia, your pet's spay or neuter is a convenient time for this screening to be performed.

- Yes, I would like a screening hip radiograph (\$80)
- No, I decline a screening hip radiograph

Heartworm & flea/tick prevention

With all of the excitement and responsibility that comes with having a new pet it can be easy to fall behind on monthly preventatives. Please remember that most preventative products are designed to be given monthly, year-round, life-long. Please let us know at the time of your visit if you need any refills or have any questions on these products.