



Your pet has been scheduled for an OVH (ovariohysterectomy), or spay. This commonly-performed but major surgery involves removing the uterus and ovaries. It eliminates the "heat" cycle in the female dog. It also greatly reduces the chance for her developing mammary cancer. If she is spayed before her first heat cycle her chance is almost zero, after her first heat cycle the risk is 7%, after the second heat cycle it climbs to 1 in 4.

Be sure to take away any food or treats 12 hrs. prior to the day of surgery. Water is safe to have up until the time of surgery.

Please come to the front door of the clinic @ 7:45 am the morning of the surgery. It should be unlocked, but if not, please knock. We will go over the release form for the surgery. Listed below is a description of some of the options we may offer to you for your pet.

- IV fluids- stabilizes blood pressure, keeps patient hydrated, gives immediate access to a vein to give treatment in case of an emergency
- BUN- blood test that checks basic liver and kidney function
- PCV(pack cell volume)- blood test that checks for anemia
- TP (total protein)- blood test that checks for dehydration and liver function
- Microchip- helps return lost pets to their owners. Most animal shelters scan found pets for microchips
- Under anesthesia is a great time to trim nails, clean ears, pull deciduous (baby) teeth
- E-collar- keeps pet from licking incision. Licking the incision can cause infection. They can also remove their own sutures. This is an emergency and requires additional surgery and costs.

Your pet may have a small shaved area on her legs or neck where blood work was taken or an IV injection was given (there may also be a bandage on one of the legs, which can be removed the evening after surgery). An IV injection of anesthesia is given to make it possible to place an endotracheal tube to provide gas anesthesia during the surgery. Anesthesia can cause nausea, so please feed your pet a small meal the evening after surgery and limit water to a modest intake.

It is very important to inspect your pet's incision daily. Please check for any discharge, swelling, or redness. Please keep your pet as quiet as possible for 7 -10 days after surgery. This will help reduce the chance of complications. Unless otherwise noted, your pet's incision will have sutures to be removed. This involves a quick visit back to the clinic. Please let the receptionist know your pet is here for suture removal.

Thank you for choosing to help your pet to live a longer, healthier, happier life by allowing us to perform this procedure.