



PET HEALTH



Desexing your Pet

Desexing is a common surgical procedure performed in most general practice veterinary clinics.

In male dogs and cats castration involves removing the testicles and part of the spermatic cord and vessels. This helps lower their testosterone levels as well as removes their fertility and drive to mate. While behaviourally this can be a useful asset in training and keeping a male dog or cat well behaved it also has health benefits including reducing the risk of testicular and prostate cancer.

In female dogs and cats a spay surgery involves removing both the ovaries and the uterus. This effectively removes fertility and the chance of falling pregnant while also prevents the chance of uterine and ovarian cancer and also significantly decreases the chance of mammary cancer.

Both male and female desexing procedures are generally day surgery procedures, with an admission appointment required in the morning of the surgery and the patient usually going home later in the afternoon.

It is important to keep a dog or cat quiet and confined after a desexing surgery to minimise any inflammation and trauma to the surgical area and to prevent excessive swelling or wound breakdown.

