

Orchidectomy is the full name for the procedure that your dog has just undergone. Commonly known as neutering, this surgery involves the removal of both testicles. This makes it so that your male will not be able to get female dogs pregnant or sire puppies. This will also reduce a number of behavioral problems.

Most dogs do quite well after surgery. If yours does not, please call and let us know what is going on. Wait at least 1 hour after returning home to offer you pet anything by mouth. First offer only small amounts of water, and if he seems alert and hungry, offer small amounts of food (1/3 of usual meal). Every pet reacts differently, some pets may not eat anything for 24 hours. There should be no vomiting, he should feel good, he should eat well, and his incision should not be red, swollen, or oozing. Occasionally there will be some swelling in the scrotum, and it may even look like the testicles have not been removed. Rest assured that they have. This swelling, while not something we want to have happen, generally resolves itself without any major problems. Problems would include vomiting, lethargy, poor appetite, or leaking or oozing from the incision. If there are any problems, please call and let us know.

There are several different pain medications that may be prescribed. Read and follow the label directions carefully, and call if you have any questions regarding your dog's pain medication. Do not give any over the counter medication to your pet unless directed.

Exercise restriction is important for the first week. Moderate exercise is good, but we recommend that you avoid strenuous activity. It is best not to let him run free, leash walks are recommended. While you are away keep him in a kennel or small room.

At least once a day look at his incision. Make sure he is not chewing or licking it. The incision should not appear red or infected. It should be dry and clean. Do not put anything on the incision. I do not recommend cleaning it, either, as that can slow down healing. No bathing until the sutures are removed, and no swimming until two weeks after surgery.