

Castration Informational Sheet

Castration is surgical removal of the testicles. Normal castrations of a horse result in two open incisions at the base of the scrotum. The procedure is performed with the horse recumbent (lying down) under a short acting general anesthesia. This procedure is performed with sterile instruments and using surgical preparation. An injection of anti-inflammatory, antibiotics, and a tetanus vaccine is given after the procedure is performed. This increases comfort after the castration and reduces the occurrence of infections. The surgical incision is left open to promote drainage and healing.

Potential Complications

Although castration is a routine surgical procedure, certain complications can arise including:

- **Excessive Bleeding**
- **Infections/Swelling**
- **Inguinal Hernia**
- **Pregnancy**

(A recently castrated gelding can still get a mare in foal for some time after castration because of sperm remaining in the conducting systems.)

To help prevent any complications, please follow the after care instructions provided by Woods End Equine at the time of the procedure. Any questions, please feel free to ask!