

Swiftsure Equine Veterinary Services
Dr. Danica Olenick, DVM, Dr. Kaitlin McDonald, DVM & Dr Katharine White, DVM

Equine Field Castration

Owner: _____ Location: _____
Horse: _____

Routine field castration of your horse will be performed by Dr. Danica Olenick or Dr. Kaitlin McDonald. Despite the provision of professional, quality care, this procedure does carry certain inherent risks. While every reasonable effort will be made to prevent and/or minimize these situations, you should be aware that surgical complications can and do occur. This procedure is performed under general anesthesia. Although the risk of injury or death during the anesthetic induction, positioning, and recovery is present, it is considered to be minimal. Some animals may develop disease conditions or complications that will require additional treatment or surgery, raising the cost of this procedure above the routine expenditure. Risks are greatest in large, old, or medically compromised animals but can and do occur in any animal. Seldom, the severity of these complications may result in patient death or extreme morbidity, necessitating humane euthanasia. These complications include diarrhea, laminitis, musculoskeletal problems, pleuropneumonia, severe infections, severe bleeding, or evisceration from the surgical incisions.

By your signature, you acknowledge and accept that certain expenses and risks do exist surrounding the field castration of your horse. Further, you agree to full payment of _____ (farm call, anesthesia, castration fee, tetanus, vaccinations, antibiotics).

Client or Agent

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Veterinarian

Signature: _____ Date: _____

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Aftercare Instructions

- The surgical incisions are left open to drain and heal. It is important they heal from the inside out.
- Keep the horse restricted to a clean, dry environment for 24 hours post surgery. Do not bed on sawdust (straw is the preferred bedding material).
- Starting the following day, exercise the horse for 20 minutes twice daily.
- Cold hose the incisions for 10 minutes after exercise. Do not to spray forcibly into the incision site.
- Prescribed antibiotics:
 - None (already admin.)
 - _____ level scoop(s) of Uniprim once daily for _____ days
 - _____ TMS 800/160mg tablets twice daily for _____ days
- Prescribed anti-inflammatory:
 - None (already admin.)
 - _____ gm Bute _____ daily for _____ days
- Slow dripping of blood from the incision site for the first 24 hours is normal. A steady stream is not normal and would warrant a rapid re-evaluation.
- Some swelling of the prepuce and the surgical site is normal. Excessive swelling is not normal and would warrant a rapid re-evaluation.
- There should be no tissue hanging from the surgical site. If any tissue becomes herniated through the wound to the outside, **call the office immediately.**
- Call the office if the horse becomes sick, lame, depressed, febrile, or off feed.
- The horse may exhibit stallion-like behavior for a variable period of time after complete castration.
- The horse may remain fertile for 45 days after complete castration.