



Best Friends Veterinary Group Newsletter

AUTUMN 2015

Neutering: When & Why

Once your pet is 6 months of age, your Vet will usually suggest it is time to think about neutering as part of your pets ongoing preventative care.

Here is why neutering is recommended as well as what the health and social benefits are for you and your pet:

Males

- Castration can dramatically reduce the risk of certain types of cancer including testicular and prostate cancer, as well as anal adenomas
- Male dogs become less interested in females in season once they themselves have been neutered.
- Can help to reduce the desire to roam in males
- It is the best way to prevent any unwanted pregnancies

Females

- Negates the risk of post season complications such as life threatening womb infections that can occur after any season
- Significantly reduces females risk of mammary cancer if they are spayed before their first season
- The hassle involved with bitches when they are in season is also taken away, as well as the mess. Some bitches even need to be kept house bound due to the unwanted attention from male dogs when out which can be frustrating for both dog and owner.
- It is the best way to prevent any unwanted pregnancies



Special Offers

Nurse Clinics

Ask your practice about their program of free nurse clinics

Pet Diabetes Month

Best Friends Vets will be raising awareness of the risks of Diabetes mellitus ('sugar diabetes') by making free urine glucose tests available for pet owners during November*. Please contact your local Vets to book an appointment.

*While stocks last



Although neutering may help with certain undesirable traits such as aggression and dominant behaviour, in both males and females, it should not change your pets character.

So what does having your pet neutered involve?

If your pet is female it is spayed removing both ovaries and the uterus. If your pet is male it is castrated removing both testicles.

Both procedures require a general anaesthetic, which carries a very small risk of complications at a young age. The length of time the operation takes will depend on whether your pet is a cat, dog, ferret, rabbit or other species, as well as what breed and size it is.

These procedures require a days' stay at the Vets, your pet is admitted in the morning and discharged the same day. Pets will usually be quite sleepy that evening and we advise keeping them indoors in a quiet environment away from other lively pets or occupants of the house that night. They may need to return to the Vets for post-operative checks and for stitches to be removed, but recovery usually takes just a few days to a week.

We are very excited that our hospital in Peterborough is now able to offer keyhole surgery for spaying, so any clients that would prefer this technique to be used, can request they are referred for this procedure.

What does the future hold for a neutered pet?

Neutered pets tend not to roam as far or as frequently, which has a pleasant knock on effect of leading to fewer injuries from these adventures. Add this to the above health benefits and on average a neutered cat can be expected to live twice as long as unneutered cats.

Surgery Numbers

Billerica	01277 651009	Peterborough, Broadway	
Chatteris	01354 692309		01733 562904
Dagenham	0208 595 5818	Rainham	01708 555788
Holbeach	01406 426222	Romford	01708 762266
Isle of Dogs	0207 536 7555	South Woodham Ferrers	
Leicester	01162 517677		01245 321717
March	01354 653435	Shenfield	01277 221193
Mile End	0207 790 4599	Whittlesey	01733 208090
Milton Keynes	01908 270144	Yaxley	01733 243000
Oakhill	0208 527 0034		

www.bestfriendsgroup.com

A Big Thank You to Virbac who have helped make this newsletter possible.



As a result of neutering your pet's metabolism will change and they will require fewer calories, so you will need to reduce the amount of food available to them to ensure they stay a healthy weight. We offer free weight clinic appointments with a veterinary nurse, for anyone who'd like advice on feeding and weight management for their pet.

We are also delighted to offer a £3 off voucher, for an initial purchase of a 1.5kg or more bag of cat/2kg or more bag of dog Royal Canin neutered food for clients who'd like to put their pets on a diet specifically designed for this stage in their pets life.

Is Your Pet a VIP?

- Healthy Paws Plan
VIP's Receive:**
- Monthly Parasite Protection**
 - 6 Monthly Health Checks**
 - Annual Vaccinations**
 - 10% Off Vets Bills
inc Food**

Our Healthy Paws Plan Members enjoy all this at a discounted price & pay via a monthly direct debit, which can start from as little as £6.95.

All our VIP's benefit from an additional health check six months after their last vaccination, 10% off all services and products purchased from us.

