



HORSE CASTRATION AFTERCARE

Your colt/stallion is now a gelding and two stone lighter!

However, the procedure isn't complete until his surgery incisions fully heal, which usually takes about 10 days.

The castration technique used here is called a "semi closed" method, where the skin incisions, usually 10-15cm long, are left open to heal. This will happen naturally as long as the wounds don't seal over prematurely, or get infected.

To achieve the ideal recovery from castrations, we recommend the following:

1. Do not feed him any dry feed for at least 4 hours after the surgery. Thereafter he can be fed and watered as normal.
2. In the first 24 hours, please keep him quiet in a small, clean, dust free enclosure, with minimal exercise.
3. After 24 hours, turn him out in a clean, grassy paddock, preferably with "mates" who will keep him moving – we need to avoid him sulking in the corner, feeling sorry for himself, as inactivity may lead to swelling.
4. If stabled full time, or paddocked on his own, ensure that he is worked for a short time twice daily on a clean area – avoid arenas with dust or sand.
5. Catch him daily and inspect the wounds – look for swelling around the incisions, abnormal tissue hanging out of the incision areas, odour, pus, lameness, pain, or reduced appetite.
6. Avoid spraying the wounds with anything, including fly repellants – horses are very good at swatting flies away with their tails, and it is rare for castration wounds in healthy geldings to get flyblown in this area.
7. Please be aware that castrated geldings can successfully serve and get a mare pregnant for up to 6 weeks after the surgery. Avoid running him with non-pregnant mares.

If you have any concerns about the aftercare, or any questions don't hesitate to call the clinic on 54822488.