

This is a surgical procedure to remove the ovaries and uterus (womb). This is done through an incision in the abdomen and is done under a general anaesthetic. Bitches can be spayed before their first season from 18 weeks of age.

For this procedure your pet will only be in for the day, as the majority go home the same evening. Two days after the operation your pet will have a check up with one of the nurses, and again ten days later to have the stitches removed. All of which is included in the cost of the spay.

## Advantages for spaying:

- No seasons
- No unwanted pregnancies
- No false pregnancies
- Greatly reduced incidence of mammary tumours (breast cancer) especially if spayed young
- Elimination of womb infection (Pyometra) which is a potentially life threatening condition that occurs later in life in entire bitches
- Prevention of ovarian and vaginal tumours

As with all procedures there are some disadvantages. These are:

- Weight gain spaying often reduces the metabolic rate, therefore your pet is likely to need fewer calories. Weight gain can be prevented by regular exercise and feeding a "lighter diet". We offer free advice and weight checks with our Veterinary Nurses. We recommend that you bring your pet in for her first weight check 3 months after being spayed. Then we can catch any weight gain early.
- Incontinence very rarely bitches can lose partial control over their bladder, resulting in dribbling. If this was to occur it is easily controlled with oral medication

For further information or to book an appointment please ask one of the Veterinary team.