

# Cat Castration: Admission



Between 8-8.30am on the morning of surgery your pet will be admitted to the hospital by one of our surgery nurses.

She will go through the admission paper work with you, treatment plan and discuss pre-anaesthetic blood testing or any questions or concerns you have before the procedure.

We will make sure that we have contact phone numbers for you so that we can call you during or after the procedure with any updates.



# Pre-op check

Once admitted your cat will be given a pre-anaesthetic examination by our qualified nursing staff. They will check your cat's body weight and assess heart rate and rhythm, gum colour and temperature to ensure that they are fit and well enough to under-go their procedure. If your vet has recommended pre-anaesthetic blood testing, this is also carried out at this stage in our in-house laboratory, so results are in front of your vet within 30 minutes.

Your pet is then given a pre-medication injection to provide light sedation, reduce anxiety and provide pre-surgery pain relief.



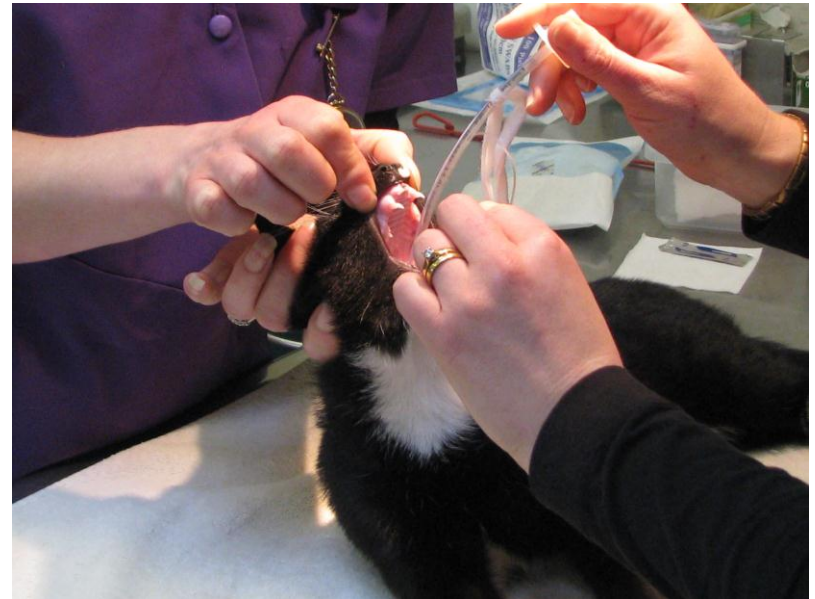
Nurses checking heart rate



Waiting for surgery

# Anaesthetic

Your vet will then proceed with inducing anaesthesia, which involves an injection of anaesthetic in the vein, usually on the front leg, followed by insertion of an endotracheal (ET) tube into the windpipe; this allows maintenance of isoflurane gas anaesthetic. At The Vet Centre anaesthetic safety during surgery is our main priority, so we use the safest anaesthesia protocols for your cat based on their breed, age and health.

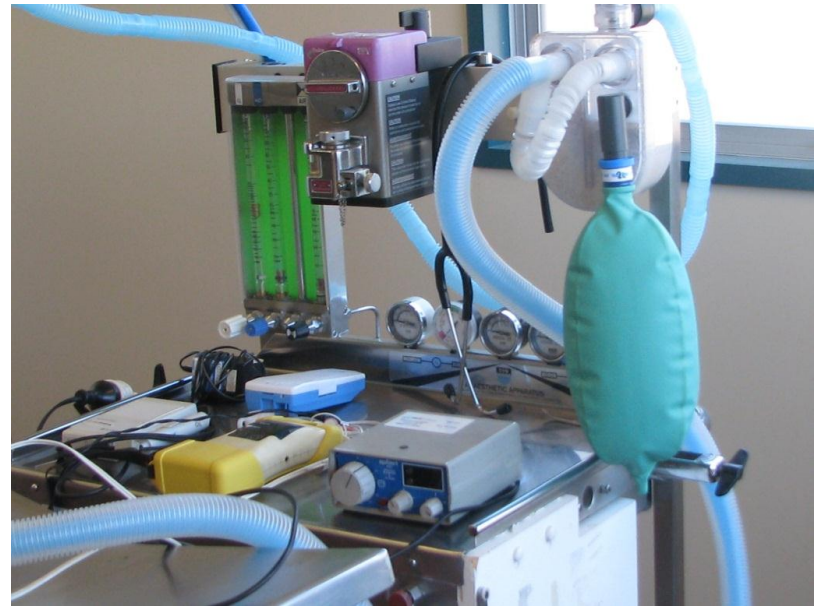


The anaesthetic injection is given & then the ET tube is inserted

During the surgery your pet is connected to medical equipment that constantly monitors heart and breathing rates to ensure the safest anaesthetic possible. Your pet will have a fully qualified veterinary nurse monitoring them during the entire procedure and into recovery until they go home.



Monitoring the anaesthetic



The anaesthetic machine and monitoring equipment

Once your pet has reached a stable level of anaesthesia they are prepared for surgery – the fur on the scrotum will be clipped (shaved) and it is then cleaned (“scrubbed”) with chlorhexidine and alcohol to ensure sterility.



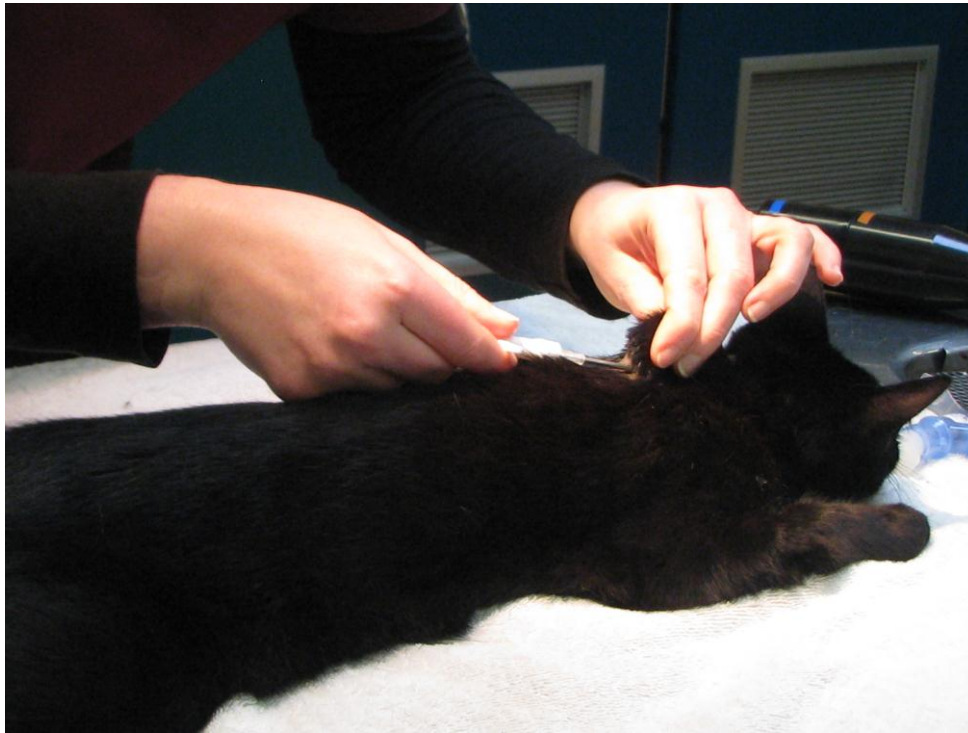
Nurse clipping the scrotum for surgery



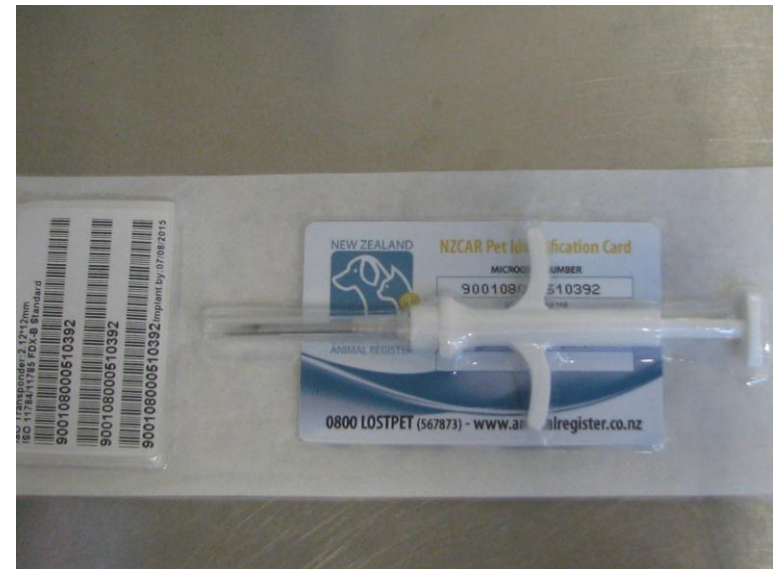
Scrubbing the skin

# Microchipping

We can also insert a microchip under the skin over the shoulder area while your cat is under anaesthesia; this is a permanent way of identifying them as your cat in the unfortunate event of them becoming lost or injured. This is a simple, pain free procedure while they are already asleep for castration, and is highly recommended for young cats.



Microchip being inserted under skin



# Surgery

The surgery is carried out by the vet who prepares for surgery by scrubbing their hands and wrists with chlorhexidine to ensure sterility.



Vet scrubbing hands



Starting the castration surgery

Your vet will then perform the castration surgery which involves making small skin incision in the scrotum over each testicle, the testicles then are removed and the blood vessels ligated. There are no sutures in the skin, as the incisions are tiny and heal quickly. After neutering your cat will not be able to mate and have kittens with a female cat. He will also not smell like a tom cat, and his chances of wandering and getting into fights, or being hit by a car are greatly reduced.



Making an incision over a testicle



Removing the testicle and ligating the vessels



# Post-op

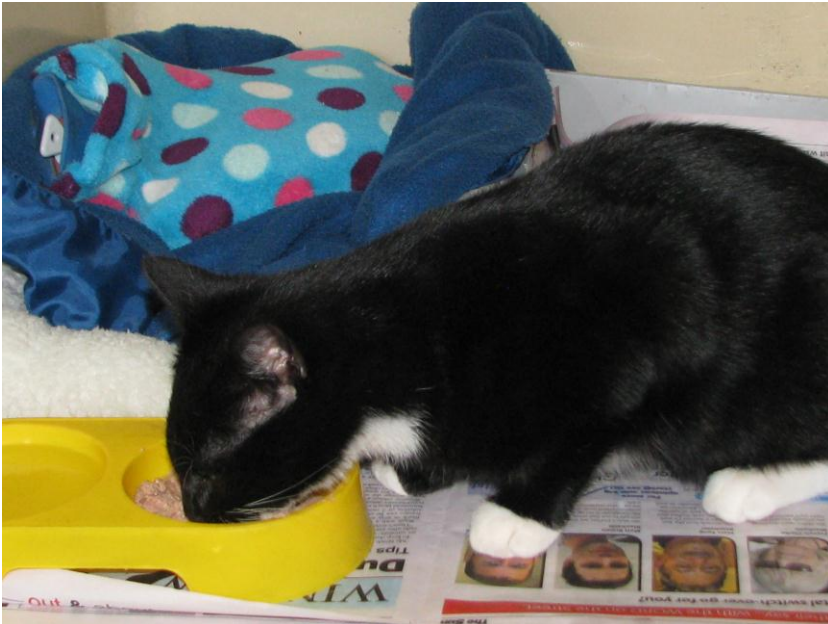
After your vet has completed the procedure your pet will then go into our recovery cage. At this stage the ET tube is removed once they are awake enough to swallow, and their dedicated vet nurse will continue to be with them and ensure that they are kept warm (blankets, heat pads and hot water bottles are used) and comfortable in recovery. An additional long acting pain relief injection is given at this stage.



Recovery room with nurse monitoring patient while he wakes up

Once in recovery one of our nurses will phone you and let you know how the surgery went and give you an update on how your pet is doing.

Once your pet is feeling more wide awake we transfer them to our warm comfortable cat ward. They are offered water and some tasty food before settling down for the afternoon.



You will then be able to pick your cat up from the clinic after 3pm.

At discharge your nurse will go through written discharge instructions on how to care for your pet at home after surgery.