

CASTRATION CONSENT FORM

Owner/Agent Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

- I am the owner.
 I am the agent of the owner. I confirm that I have the express authority of the owner to authorise the above procedure.

Animal Name: _____

Species: Equine

Breed: _____

Age: _____

Sex: Stallion

Colour: _____

Brands: _____

Microchip#: _____

I _____ (owner/agent) authorise Dr. Alexandra Willi to administer general anaesthetic to the horse named above for the purpose of gelding as deemed appropriate by the attending veterinary surgeon.

If applicable, I confirm that I have notified the insurance company that this procedure will be undertaken.

I acknowledge that no surgical procedure is without risk to the animal. I accept all potential surgical and anaesthetic risks including any complications or consequences that may develop or occur as a result of this procedure. Some of the common problems associated with this procedure include:

- Post-surgical bleeding and infection.
- Anaesthetic injury or death.
- Eventration/evisceration of the intestines through the surgical wound.

I acknowledge that I have been made aware of these risks and that I understand them. I acknowledge that post-operative care may be required and will be undertaken as deemed necessary by the attending veterinary surgeon. I confirm that I have read and understood the "Equine Castration Information" document and the "Equine Castration Aftercare" document and agree to follow the guidelines.

I agree to pay all costs associated with this procedure including those associated with livery. If there is no history of a tetanus vaccine administration in the previous 6 months, then I authorise this to be given at the time of castration at an additional cost.

Signature Owner/Agent: _____

Date: _____

EQUINE CASTRATION INFORMATION

Castration is the surgical removal of the testicles. The procedure is performed with the horse recumbent (lying down) under a short acting general anaesthesia. The procedure is performed with sterile instruments and using routine surgical preparation. At the time of the procedure your horse will receive appropriate pain relief and antibiotics at the veterinarian's discretion. If a tetanus vaccination has not been administered within the last 6 months, vaccination at the time of procedure will also be required.

Please note that the surgical incision is left open, rather than sutured to facilitate drainage and healing.

Potential Complications:

- **Bleeding:** There is likely to be some degree of bleeding from the surgical site for up to 48 hours after surgery. If you can count the drops, continue to monitor. If the bleeding is streaming or too fast to count your horse requires immediate veterinary attention, please contact your veterinarian immediately.
- **Swelling:** Some swelling after the procedure is normal. Most swelling will appear on the sheath as it tends to travel down the body. This should reduce within 3-4 days after surgery.
- **Infection:** After the testicles are removed the incision is left open, rather than sutured, and allowed to heal. This helps with draining to prevent excessive swelling. If the incision closes/blocks early, infection can be sealed inside. This generally presents with swelling around the surgery site, discharge, lethargy and inappetence of your gelding, and a rectal temperature over 38.3°C. If you identify these symptoms, your horse needs veterinary attention.
- **Evisceration/Inguinal Hernia:** If you notice any tissue protruding from the surgery site this is a medical emergency and can result in death. In some horses the opening of the abdominal wall (inguinal canal) through which the testicles descend into the scrotum is larger or flexible. In these horses, the intestines and other abdominal tissue can pass through the inguinal opening. Though inguinal hernias are uncommon, they are a serious and life-threatening complication. If you identify these symptoms, please contact your veterinarian immediately.
- **Pregnancy:** A recently castrated gelding can still get a mare in foal for some time after castration because of sperm remaining in the conducting system. Recently castrated geldings should be kept away from mares for 6 weeks.

EQUINE CASTRATION AFTERCARE

Day of the procedure:

Keep your gelding in a clean stable or small grass paddock, reduce dust as best as possible. He might be slow and drowsy after his procedure for several hours. Do not offer feed until fully awake and able to swallow - approximately 3 hours after surgery. The first day after surgery it is important to keep your gelding quiet so the wound can seal and blood clots can form.

Allow approximately 2-3 weeks for the surgical wound to heal completely.

Monitoring:

Check the surgical site 3 times daily for the first 7 days and twice daily for another 7 days. Look out for excessive swelling - looks like he was not gelded, bleeding - bleeding should stop within 48 hours and should not exceed a drip, or tissue protruding from the surgery site. Monitor his general demeanour, appetite and passing manure. If safe to do so, monitoring the animal's rectal temperature is ideal and up to 38.3°C is considered normal.

Exercise:

After the first 24 hours, your gelding should be exercised twice daily for 10 minutes for the next 7 days. This can include fast hand walking, trotting or lunging. Moving around encourages draining and helps to reduce swelling.

Washing:

You may cold hose the hind limbs to clean off any blood or discharge. Do not spray any water around or into the surgical site.

Insect repellent:

Apply fly spray on the inside of his hind legs to avoid flies sitting in the surgical site. Do not spray any repellent close to the surgical site.

Medication:

You may give your gelding oral Bute/Phenylbutazone paste as pain relief. Give ____ ml per mouth ONCE daily for 3 days, starting the day after the procedure.

Please call immediately if you notice excessive swelling; bleeding that is streaming or too fast to count individual drops; tissue hanging from the incisions; discharge; lethargy; inappetence; lameness; or rectal temperature exceeding 38.3°C.