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FOUR STAR EQUINE
V E T E R I N A R Y S E R V I C E S

Equine Castration Consent

Owner name _____ Phone _____

Horse name _____ Age _____

Breed _____ Color _____

I _____ (owner/agent) authorize Four Star Equine PLLC and its veterinarians, authorized agents and staff to administer sedatives and general anesthesia to the above named horse for the purpose of castration as deemed appropriate by the attending veterinary surgeon. If applicable, I confirm the I have notified the insurance company that the procedure will be performed. I acknowledge that no surgical procedure is without risk to the animal. I accept all potential surgical and anesthetic risks including any complications that may develop as a result of the procedure and agree to forever release Four Star Equine PLLC and its employees and representatives of any liability associated with the castration procedure or subsequent complications.

Some of the common post-surgical complications associated with castration are:

- Post-surgical bleeding
- Post-surgical infection
- Anesthetic injury or death
- Eventration/evisceration of the intestines through the surgical incision

I acknowledge that I have been made aware of these risks. I acknowledge that post-operative care may be required and I will be responsible for updating the veterinary surgeon on patient progress and seeking post-operative veterinary care if needed. I confirm that I have read and understand the castration aftercare document and agree to follow the guidelines. I acknowledge that castration is a permanent and irreversible surgical procedure and that my animal will no longer be useable for breeding purposes. I agree to pay all costs associated with this procedure and the care associated with complications if they arise. If there is no history of a tetanus vaccine being administered by a veterinarian in the previous 6 months, I authorize this to be given at the time of castration at an additional cost.

Signed Owner/Agent: _____ Date: _____



Four Star Equine Castration Aftercare

Castration is surgical removal of the testicles. The procedure is performed with the horse recumbent (lying down) under a short acting general anesthesia. The procedure is performed with sterile instruments and using routine surgical preparation. At the time of the procedure, an injection of anti-inflammatories and antibiotics is given. This increases comfort after castration and reduces the occurrence of infection. If a tetanus vaccination has not been administered within the last 6 months, vaccination at the time of procedure will also be required. Note that the surgical incision is left open (i.e. not sutured) to facilitate drainage and healing.

Potential Complications Although castration is a routine surgical procedure, certain complications can develop including:

Bleeding

There is likely to be some degree of bleeding from the surgical site for up to 48 hours after surgery. Owners should monitor bleeding by monitoring the surgical site several times daily for 2-3 days after surgery. If an owner can count the drops of blood, continue to monitor. Any bleeding occurring faster than this or streaming of blood requires immediate veterinary attention.

Infection/Swelling

If the scrotal region swells to more than 2 times its pre-surgical size or your horse becomes lethargic, inappetent, or rectal temperature exceeds 101.5F, infection should be suspected and veterinary attention sought immediately. Following the aftercare instructions should encourage controlled drainage, reduce risk of infection, and reduce excessive swelling.

Inguinal Hernia

In some horses, the opening of the abdominal wall (inguinal canal) through which the testicles descend into the scrotum is abnormally large or flexible. In these horses, the intestines and other abdominal tissue can pass through the inguinal opening (herniate). Though inguinal hernias are uncommon, they are a serious and life threatening complication. If you see pink tissue hanging from the surgical site, seek veterinary care 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 90 days.



Four Star Equine Castration Aftercare

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Stall rest the horse for the first 24 hours after surgery. This should be a clean and dry standard sized stall. This allows the blood clots to time to stabilize and reduces the risk of post surgical bleeding.
2. The horse and surgical site should be checked at least hourly for 8 hours after surgery, then at least twice daily for the next week.
3. After the first 24 hours, the horse should be exercised for 10 minutes twice daily for the next week. This can include fast walking in hand, trotting or lunging. This movement encourages drainage and helps to reduce swelling.
4. The horse's hind legs can be hosed and cleaned as needed with water and a mild dish soap like Dawn as blood tends to drip onto the limbs immediately after surgery. NEVER spray water into or around the surgical site unless instructed by your veterinarian to do so.
5. Administer anti-inflammatory and analgesic medications as prescribed by your veterinarian at the time of surgery.
6. Please call immediately if you notice excessive swelling, bleeding that is streaming or too fast to count individual drops, pink tissue hanging from the incisions, discharge, lethargy, inappetance, lameness or rectal temperature exceeding 101.5F.