

others, and we will tailor medicines to their individual needs. Generally the pain relief your cat receives on the day is all they will need, but additional pain relief, generally in the form of an oral suspension will sometime be sent home with your cat.

### Wound care

Your pet will be sent home with a buster collar or 'pet shirt' to prevent self trauma. Licking and chewing at wounds is the number one cause of complications, and can result in your pet requiring further treatment. The vets and nurse will explain how to avoid this. You do not need to clean the wound or apply any ointments at home (unless specific instructions are given).

### What to expect

Your pet may be lethargic and more sleepy than usual that night, generally this has worn off by the morning. Sometimes your pet may have an upset stomach, if you have any concerns please call us. One of the nurse will phone you within 24 hours or so to check all is well at home.

### Resting your pet

You will need to keep female cats indoors and restrict their activity for at least 10 days, and males rested for at least 3 days.

### Can they eat and drink normally?

Once home your pet may want to eat, offer them some of the recovery food we have available or a small portion of their normal cat food. (avoid extra rich treats such as sardines etc.)

Don't worry if they don't want to eat that night, but if they don't want breakfast give us a ring.

### Post Op Checks

We will want to see your cat at about 3 and 10 days post op (males generally only come to the 3 day check). You will generally see one of our qualified nurses, if they are concerned they will fetch one of the vets. The first check is to check all is well post anaesthetic, and the second is generally to remove any sutures and check wound are healing as they should.

### If you have a query?

If you have any queries please ring the reception team on the numbers below, they will either be able to help you direct, or pass your message onto the vets and nurses.

### Discounts

Special discounted rates are available through our Folly Care Club, please ask for more details



12 Columbine Road, Walton Cardiff, Tewkesbury. GL20 7SP  
Tel: 01684 292244

2 Church Road, Bishops Cleeve, Chelt. GL52 8LR  
Tel: 01242 679880

1 Folly Gardens, Barton Road, Tewkesbury. GL20 5QP



[www.follygardens.com](http://www.follygardens.com)



## Neutering your cat

**An independent, family owned practice, offering quality veterinary service & care.**



## What is neutering?

Neutering your cat is where the sex organs responsible for reproduction are removed, testes in males (castration) and the ovaries in females (spaying).

In male cats the testes are surgically removed under general anaesthetic, two small incision are made either of the scrotum, and the testicles removed. The wounds are very small and best left to heal without stitches.

In female cats, the ovaries and entire uterus are surgically removed. Generally via a small incision of the left hand side of your cats abdomen. It is more invasive procedure for females, as we are going into the abdomen, and therefore they often need a bit more aftercare than the boys! They will have internal sutures to close the muscle of the abdomen—these will dissolve, as well as sutures/stitches in the skin. Sometime these will be dissolvable too, sometime we use skin sutures to be removed about 10 days later. Your pet will be completely asleep during the procedure, and provided with lots of pain relief.

## Are there any risks?

All general anaesthetics carry a small degree of risk. Your vets and nurse will perform a full clinical exam, and sometimes a blood test to minimise these risks further. We use the very latest anaesthetic drugs, and all staff are fully trained.

Post op there is a small risk of infection, and wound breakdown. These risks are reduced dramatically by preventing your pet from

interfering with their wounds and preventing them from over exercising. Your vet and nurse will advise you on how to minimise these risks. Your pet will be sent home with buster collar to prevent licking/chewing. 'Pet shirts' can be used too.

## Are you required to make any special preparations?

You will need to starve your cat from 8pm the night before. They can keep their drinking water down until morning. It is often best to keep your cat indoors overnight, they are very canny at disappearing in the morning. You will need to be available to drop them off in the morning (generally between 8am and 9am) and pick them up in the evening (generally after 4pm and before 6.30pm).

## What do I need to bring?

Please bring your cat in a secure basket, we will label it here so we know who it belongs too. You can bring a blanket or toy for your cat if you wish. We will provide special recovery food post op for your pet. If you have a cats protection voucher, please bring this too.

## When you arrive

If you have seen one of the vets very recently for your free of charge pre neutering exam and advice, one of the nurses will admit your pet in the morning. Sometimes if your pet has not seen the vet recently or at all, the vet will admit your pet and discuss the consent form with you instead. We generally try to admit patients

between 8am and 9am in the morning, but we can be flexible on this. You will go through the consent form with a member of staff. Have a chance to ask any questions and book a time to collect your pet later on in the day.

You will also be asked if you would like your pet microchipped whilst they are here, which we recommend for all pets.

## What happens during the day?

Your cat will come through to the cat ward, where they will be examined by the vet. Any pre op blood samples will be taken and run, and your pet will receive a 'pre-med'. This is often a combination of medicine that will help them relax, and make the anaesthetic safer. Your cat will then go through to the 'prep room' to receive their general anaesthetic, so they are completely asleep. Once in theatre your pet will have their surgery, which takes about 10 minutes for males, and about 20 minutes or so for females. Once the procedure is safely finished your pet will be removed to recovery, where they will be closely monitor until they are fully awake. Once the team are happy, your cat will go back to the cat ward to have some fuss and probably a well earned ate breakfast! The nurses will phone you to let you know all is well, once your pet is safely back on the ward. You are welcome to phone for an update at any point, but generally we will phone you about lunchtime with an update.

## Will your cat be uncomfortable?

Your cats pain should be well controlled, like people some animals seem more painful than