

NOW OFFERING LAPAROSCOPIC SPAYS

What is Laparoscopy?

Laparoscopy, or minimally invasive surgery, is a way to explore your pet's abdominal organs using small keyhole incisions. Using these incisions, we insert a camera and specialized surgical instruments to perform surgery.

Laparoscopy is a safer method of surgery with everything being done under direct magnified visualization. Organs, such as your pet's ovaries, do not need to be pulled out of the body to allow surgery to be performed resulting in less trauma to the internal structures of your pet's abdomen. The use of laparoscopy allows for less pain, fewer complications and a quicker recovery.

Laparoscopic Spay

For a laparoscopic spay, two small incisions (5-10mm long) are made along your dog's abdominal midline. The abdomen is inflated with carbon dioxide to aid in viewing of the abdominal organs and blood vessels. A special device is then used to seal the blood vessels and tissue surrounding each ovary so that they can be carefully removed under direct visualization. This contrasts with a traditional spay, in which tissues connecting the ovaries to the body wall are often blindly torn.

The uterus is not removed with the laparoscopic spay. Even though the uterus is not removed, your pet will still get all the health benefits that come with a traditional spay, with the benefit of a less traumatic surgery. In the cases of larger breed, deep chested dogs, prophylactic gastropexy can be performed at the same time to prevent life threatening gastric torsion (bloat).

Although uncommon, there is a possibility that the surgeon may need to convert to a traditional spay at the time of the procedure. This can be due to a dog having

abnormal anatomy, poor viewing conditions, too much bleeding or even the rare equipment malfunction. In these unlikely situations, the surgeon will select the procedure that is safest for your dog.

Advantages of Laparoscopy

- Smaller incisions resulting in less pain and reduced recovery time.
- Quicker procedure meaning less time under anesthesia.
- Decreased post operative complications (dehiscence, infection).
- Magnified view of internal structures allowing for more precision and avoids the tearing or bruising normally associated with traditional spays.
- Laparoscopic assisted gastropexy can be done at the same time of the spay with a significantly smaller incision.



West Street
VETERINARY CLINIC