

# If you intend to breed with your bitch...

We recommend that you prevent her coming into season until you are ready to breed with her. This avoids all the problems of her being in season, such as :- 1. attracting male dogs, 2. unwanted pregnancy

3. false pregnancy, 4. mess around the house

**Control of the seasons is by the use of a simple hormone injection - "Delvosterone"**

◆ **The first injection** should be given at about 12 months of age ( this is usually after the first season)

◆ **A second injection** 3 months later

◆ **A third injection** 4 months later, **then** every 5 mo. until you wish to breed. You will be reminded by post when the next injection is due.

**After breeding** Delvosterone can be started 6 wks after weaning.

**For older bitches that are not fit enough for neutering**, the injection can be started at anytime except when she is in season.

*If you do not intend to breed we recommend neutering.*

A litter of pups can bring a load of happiness into your home!

..... but first be sure you can cope!

Our leaflet on "**Pregnancy & Whelping in the Bitch**" is available free from reception.

If you have any questions? Please do ask.

## UNINTENDED MATING ( Misalliance)

If your bitch has been mated by accident and you wish to avoid her becoming pregnant, **we can prevent pregnancy by a hormone injection on day 3 and on day 5 after mating.** The hormone extends the season. This means that the unwanted mating is therefore at the "wrong time" (i.e. too early). These injections for misalliance are 97% effective in preventing pregnancy. There is no 100% effective method except neutering.

The Veterinary Health Centre, Blackburn (01254) 53622

[www.vet-healthcentre.co.uk](http://www.vet-healthcentre.co.uk)

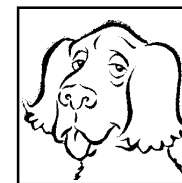
John Davies BVM&S MRCVS, David Higginson BVMS MRCVS,  
Sam Purcell BVSc MRCVS

Name

Date

# Neutering your dog

*N.B. you can have an **Identichip** inserted and the **dew claws** removed at the same time.*



## \* Five good reasons to neuter a BITCH

1. **Stops your bitch coming into season** (on heat - bleeding from the vulva - ready to mate). Normally happens 2 - 3 times a year.
2. **Prevents your bitch from becoming pregnant or developing a false pregnancy.**
3. **Stops your bitch running away to find a mate.** This reduces the risk of her being lost or being hit by a car.
4. **Stops male dogs gathering round your door** (When a bitch is in season male dogs are attracted to the bitch's home and may try to get in).
5. **Eliminates the risk of many common "female" diseases.**
  - ◆ **50% of un-neutered bitches will eventually develop pyometra or mammary tumours. Neutering prevents this from happening.**
  - ◆ **Neutered females are less likely to have epilepsy or diabetes.**

## \* Five good reasons to neuter a MALE dog

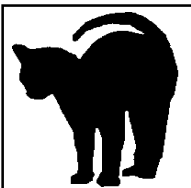
1. **Reduces Wandering, roaming is search of a bitch** - and so reduces the risk of your dog being lost, stolen or injured in a road accident.
2. **Reduces the risk of your dog being attacked by another male dog.**  
This saves yourself and your dog from bite injuries.
3. **Reduces fearful, aggressive and dominant behaviours.** Reduces aggression to people. 80% of bite injuries to people are by entire male dogs!
4. **Reduces unwanted sexual behaviour** - "mounting" of legs and small children, and "cocking, his leg" around the house trying to mark out his territory. Also prevents messy "dripping" from the prepuce.
5. **Prevents these common "male" diseases of older male dogs** -
  - ◆ **70% of un-neutered male dogs will eventually develop prostatic disease, testicular tumours, hernia or anal tumours. Neutering prevents all these from happening.**
  - ◆ **Neutered males are less likely to have diabetes or epilepsy.**

Name

Date

# Neutering your cat

*N.B. you can have an Identichip inserted and a FIV and FeLV Test at the same time.*



## \* Neutering a Female Cat :-

1. Prevents unwanted pregnancies - cats breed easily!
2. Reduces the number of "visiting toms" and the resulting tom cat smell.
3. Eliminates the risk of many common "female" diseases.

The following are virtually unknown in neutered females:-

- ◆ Mammary Tumours
- ◆ Uterine Infections

## \* Neutering a Male Cat :-

1. Reduces fighting — and serious bite infections.
2. Reduces the risk of contracting Feline Aids - Feline Immune Deficiency Virus (FIV) is transmitted by cat bites. It is untreatable, and usually fatal within two years.
3. Stops "tom-cat" spraying - and the smell.
4. Reduces road accident injuries - Neutering stops males wandering. This makes them less likely to be lost or hit by a car.
5. Eliminates the risk of many common "male" diseases such as testicular tumours or prostatic diseases.

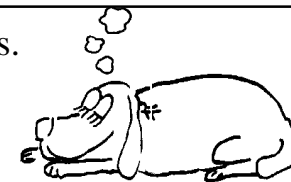
### Disadvantages of Neutering Cats and Dogs?

- ❖ The only disadvantage of neutering a cat or a dog is that you can no longer use your pet for breeding.
- ❖ Neutering does not change a pet's character, nor does it make them fat. It's overfeeding that makes a pet overweight!

## What happens when your pet is neutered?

❖ Your pet is with us for only 6 - 7 hours.

❖ We start by giving a gentle sedative to reduce any anxiety. A general anaesthetic is given and maintained on Isoflo, and the operation is completed early in the day.



❖ A powerful pain relief medication is given to eliminate discomfort during recovery.

❖ Your pet will be up and about by early afternoon, and is usually ready to go home soon after 3.00pm.



❖ Dogs and cats have remarkable powers of recovery and are usually back to normal within 3 to 4 days.

A routine blood biochemistry and haematology test is recommended before every anaesthetic to check on the body's functions.

If you'd rather stay with your pet as the anaesthetic is given, or be present during recovery, please ask reception for details - there is a charge for this service.

\* Neutered dogs and cats live longer, healthier lives.

\* Neutering at 5 - 6 months is recommended  
(but it can be done easily and simply at any age)

\* Neutering is a once only procedure -  
- and the benefits last for life.