



Gelding Operation Aftercare Instructions

post surgery care

Surgery: A scrotal approach is used to remove the testicles. The testicles are removed in a routine fashion.

Aftercare: Your horse may retain some stallion-like characteristics for up to two months. He can remain fertile for up to a couple of weeks after the surgery.

1. **Medication:** No medication is necessary, but phenylbutazone (bute) may be helpful for swelling. For a 1,000 lb horse; one tablet twice daily in feed should be adequate. Smaller horses need proportionally less (e.g. 500 lb =1/2 tablet). Phenylbutazone paste may also be used. Please confirm dosage amount with attending veterinarian.
2. **Exercise:** There is an open incision in the scrotum. The incision(s) will swell. Swelling will generally be the worst between the third and fifth day after surgery. Exercise is very important and the most beneficial means of controlling the swelling. Your horse should be forced to walk and trot a minimum of 15 minutes twice daily. More would be better; paddock turnout in addition to the forced exercise is encouraged. Forced exercise should continue for two weeks.
3. Your horse may be slightly depressed and reluctant to move initially, but he should quickly work out of this. He should continue to eat normally. There should be no fever, and any swelling should not be more than can easily be contained by two hands. Immediately contact your regular veterinarian if fever (> 101 degrees), poor appetite, swelling, or protruding of any tissue from the surgery site occurs.
4. Normal work may resume in 10-14 days if he is healing well.
5. Normal diet may be continued once the horse is fully awake from the anesthesia.

Applicant Signature: _____

Attending Veterinarian Signature: _____

Additional instructions by attending Veterinarian:
