

At Astonlee we offer a high quality neutering service for cats, dogs, rabbits and other species. Our team take part in up to date training to provide the best monitoring of your pet at all times.

We routinely use all the latest equipment in our purpose-built hospital, including capnography, blood pressure monitoring, pulse oximeter and ECG, alongside our continuous staff monitoring, to improve safety and reduce recovery times. Bare huggers provide a constant source of heat to prevent hypothermia whilst patients are under anaesthetic, and their temperatures are monitored several times to ensure their comfort and best possible recovery. We also have supraglottic airway devices available for smaller species to ensure a secure airway, whilst preventing potential damage to their sensitive trachea's (especially in cats). Neutering patients are regularly sent home the same day, which surprises many owners at how speedily they can recover.



We offer a 24 hour care with nurses and animal care assistants, meaning there will always be someone looking after your pet on site, before and after your pets neutering procedure. This also means there will be someone available to help anytime of the day or night should you need it. We have a designated kennel nurse throughout the day, whose sole purpose is to provide care to our patients non-stop.



We offer a choice of medical pet shirts or Buster collars to prevent your pet interfering with their surgical wounds once they are home, and we provide free post-operative checks routinely after every surgery.



After their surgery, your pet will most likely prefer a quiet, calm environment to recover, away from other pets and young children. You will need to provide restricted exercise for up to 2 weeks to allow the wound to heal. We advise you check the incision site daily to ensure correct healing. Contact our 24 hour team on 01908 611637 if you have any concerns with regards to their post-operative care, such as redness, swelling or discharge. You should also contact us if your pet is overly lethargic, has decreased appetite, has vomiting or diarrhoea, or you have any other concerns following the surgery.

We recommend the following ages for neutering:

Cats; females- 5 months males- 5 months

Dogs; females- 6 months males- 6 months

Rabbits; Females- 5 months males- 5 months

However, these are approximate ages and the vet may recommend earlier or later depending on the individual pet and living situation.

There are several medical and behavioural benefits of neutering your pet:

Medical;

-Spaying (females) helps prevent uterine infections (pyometras) and tumours as well as mammary tumours. Spaying your dog before their first heat offers the best protection from these conditions.

-Castrating (males) helps prevent testicular tumours and prostate problems later in life.

Behavioural:

-Spaying your female dog will prevent seasons and the unwanted behaviours associated with this.

-Castrating your male pets will reduce the likelihood of them roaming away from home to follow females.

-Un-neutered males display undesirable behaviours such as spraying strong smelling urine to mark territories. They may also mount other animals, people or objects.

-Some aggression problems may be avoided by early neutering. However neutering is not a quick-fix solution to aggressive behaviours they already display.



Spraying

It is a common misconception that neutered pets will *always* become overweight. This is not true providing you continue to exercise and monitor their food intake. We recommend changing to a 'Neutered pet' diet, such as Hills Neutered cat/dog. Other brands often offer a 'neutered'/'light' alternative. If you have concerns over your pets weight, come and see us for a free Weight Clinic with our team of informative, enthusiastic nurses.

