

EQUINE CASTRATIONS

EMERY ANIMAL HEALTH

It is recommended that most horses be castrated when they are yearlings, but it is possible to castrate when he is only a few months old, or even several years old.

A lot of people are concerned about their male horse being "Proud Cut". If the horse is castrated by a veterinarian, this is very seldom the case. The cause of "proud cut" is during the castration, the epididymis is not completely removed. Thus, causing the horse to still have the ability to produce some male hormones. He may continue to act "studdy", which defeats part of the purpose of castrating.

When Dr. Jensen castrates a horse here at Emery Animal Health, the protocol is a mild sedative to relax the horse, then a drug is given moments later to completely anesthetize the horse and he will lay down. He is then given an injection for pain and inflammation, which will aid in the healing time and comfort of the horse. He is also given a tetanus shot unless he has received a booster in the past 3 months. Dr. Jensen performs the surgery in just minutes. After 5-15 minutes, the horse will stand. In just a short amount of time, the horse is ready to be taken home.

During the time of the surgery we also offer to extract wolf teeth which is a good time since he is already out. This also usually only takes a few minutes to do. We will do this for a reduced price if done at the same time.

The surgery is done in the most sterile way possible. Therefore, the use of antibiotics is not needed. Swelling is sometimes mistaken for an infection starting, but a brisk walk will usually alleviate this problem.

The recommendation for the next few days is to let the horse just stand around in a small stall for about 12 – 24 hours. After that time, the horse should have mild exercise like a 15 minute walk several times a day. This decreases the chance of swelling and speeds up the healing time.

The cost of this surgery, which includes sedation, anesthesia, an injection for pain and inflammation, surgery, and a tetanus shot is **\$75.50**.

Extraction of wolf teeth if done at this time will add just \$10.00 to this price.

If the horse needs a 4-way instead of just tetanus, the cost is **\$81.00**

If a 5-way is needed, the cost will be **\$89.50**

The tetanus, 4-way, or 5-way is the owners' choice.

We hope to keep your animals healthy and do it in the most cost effective way we can. If you have any questions about our procedure or need additional information about costs, etc. please call us.

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