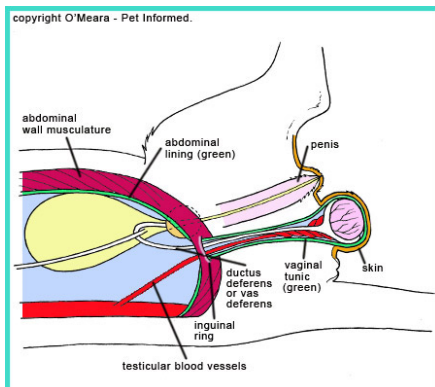
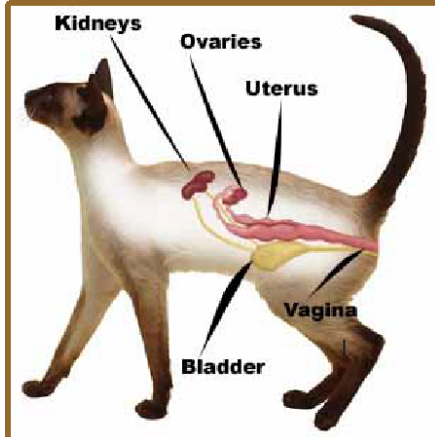


SPAYING AND NEUTERING



- **We strongly recommend that all cats be spayed or neutered!**
- For female kittens, this involves either an ovariectomy (surgical removal of the ovaries) or an ovariohysterectomy (surgical removal of the ovaries and uterus) commonly referred to as a "spay". For male kittens, it involves surgically removing the testicles (neuter).
- The ovaries and testicles are the source of sex hormones in the body and are responsible for many undesirable behaviours and health issues in un-neutered adult cats.
- There are many health and behavioural benefits to spaying or neutering including decreased risk of mammary and reproductive cancers, decreased marking territory, decreased aggression towards other cats, decreased roaming and prevention of unwanted pregnancy.
- If male kittens are not neutered, after puberty they will develop a very strong smelling urine and they will 'mark' territory by urinating on vertical surfaces - ie spraying.
- If female kittens are not spayed, once they reach puberty they will start going into 'heat' (estrus) and become very vocal and exhibit undesirable behaviours.
- These procedures require general anesthesia and may require an overnight stay in the hospital.

Since most kittens will reach puberty at 7-9 months of age, we usually recommend spaying or neutering at 6 months of age.



PATIENT SAFETY and COMFORT is our top priority for any pet undergoing General Anesthesia and Surgery

- Premium injectable and gas anesthetic agents
- **All patients are intubated** (a breathing tube is placed in the windpipe)
- Heart rate, pulse, breathing, anesthetic levels and oxygen concentrations (+/- blood pressure and EKG) are **monitored continuously** using a combination of high tech monitors and good old fashioned, 'hands on' clinical skill
- Liberal but judicious use of **pain killers** (analgesics) help ensure a safe, comfortable experience for your pet
- Warming pads
- **Individual surgical packs and suture packs** for each patient
- **State of the art** surgical equipment is sterilized in our state of the art sterilizers
- Voluntarily enrolled in **quality assurance** program through an outside lab to ensure the proper and consistent functioning of our sterilization equipment