FAQs

Q: *Will my pet still require an anti-chew device?*

A: Unfortunately yes. The surgical incisions still need to be protected from licking but generally pets are less interested in the smaller wounds.

Q: *What is removed during a lap spay?*

A: Just the ovaries. Traditionally both the ovaries and uterus are removed during a spay but there is no proven benefit to removing an otherwise healthy uterus.

Q: *Can my dog develop Pyometra if the uterus isn't removed?*

A: Uterine infections occur when the hormonal changes during the heat cycle makes the uteru more susceptible to infection. By removing the ovaries you remove the hormones and therefore the risk of Pyometra is very very low.

Q: *If this is a better procedure then why aren't all spays done laparoscopically?*

A: The simple answer is cost. Laparoscopic surgery requires more specialised equipment and a different set of skills that is more expensive.

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We are pleased to inform you that we will be offering laparoscopy surgery to all our clients in the near future!

In recent years laparoscopy has been utilised to improve the spay procedure but it can also be used for many other abdominal surgeries.

This leaflet will focus mainly on the spay procedure but please do ask for more information if you are interested.

Keyhole surgeries to be performed at this branch:

77 Baslow Road
Totley • S17 4DP
t: 0114 262 1444

Sykes Retail Park
Bolsover • S44 6DJ
t: 01246 823 353

e: info@croftveterinary.com
w: croftveterinary.com

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LAPAROSCOPY SURGERY

aka. Keyhole Surgery

Offers your pet a significant reduction in pain post surgery

Proud to be your vet!

What is Laparoscopy?

Laparoscopy is a minimally invasive surgical technique that allows visualisation of the entire abdomen through 2-3 very small incisions. The abdomen is inflated with CO2 and a camera and surgical instruments are passed through the incisions to carry out the procedure.

Traditional Spay

During a traditional spay, a large incision is made down the middle of the belly to allow access to the abdominal organs.

This provides limited visualisation and requires a moderate amount of tension to be placed on the ovaries to expose them.

The necessary tension increases the post operative pain experienced and the large incision requires a minimum of 10 days rest before return to normal exercise.

Although rare, there are also an increased number of complications with a completely open abdominal surgery.

Although the traditional spay is used effectively and safely on a daily basis, studies have shown that the laparoscopic technique has a number of benefits including:

- *As much as 65% less post-operative pain**
- *More precise and less traumatic tissue handling*
- *Reduced risk of bleeding due to use of cautery equipment*
- *A faster recovery. Animals can return to normal exercise in as little as 2 days!*
- *Better visualisation of the entire abdomen which can allow early detection of abnormal pathology*

Other surgeries that can be done laparoscopically or lap assisted include:

- *Abdominally retained testicles*
- *Organ biopsies*
- *Internal bladder examination*
- *Exploratory laparotomies*
- *Foreign body removals*

* Devitt CM, Cox RE, Hailey JJ. Duration, complications, stress, and pain of open ovariohysterectomy versus a simple method of laparoscopic-assisted ovariohysterectomy in dogs.

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