**Recommended Aftercare for Horse Castrations**

Courtesy of:

**Cotati Large Animal Hospital**

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After a routine horse castration, the horse will have an open incision in the scrotal area. The incision is left open to allow drainage to reduce the amount of post-surgical swelling and decrease the chance of infection. Some post-surgical swelling of the sheath can be expected, with the maximum swelling occurring about 5-7 days after surgery. There may be a small amount of drainage from the scrotum which should be washed off the rear legs twice daily.

**The following suggestions will help to minimize post-surgical-problems:**

**First 48 hours:**

Keep the horse confined to a stall or paddock. Hand walk for 20-30 minutes three times daily.

**Days 3-10:**

Increase the exercise by turning out to a larger area and lunging at a trot for 10 minutes three times daily.

**If swelling occurs:**

You should increase the amount and frequency of exercise and apply cold water from a hose to the sheath (not directly in the incision) for 15-20 minutes three times daily. If the horse goes off feed, has a rectal temperature above 101.5 F, or has foul smelling drainage, then you should call your veterinarian ASAP.

**Pain Management:**

Ask your veterinarian about continued Banamine/Bute after the procedure.

**\*\*Please call the hospital if you have any questions or concerns\*\***