



Canine
Pyometra Spay
Surgical Release

Pyometra is an **emergency surgery** to remove an abscessed, pus-filled infected uterus of an older unspayed female dog. With each heat cycle the uterus engorges to support a potential pregnancy. Over time these repeated cycles can cause the uterus to become thicker and develop excessive tissue. The immune system keeps the normal vaginal bacteria to a healthy level. During the prior heat cycle, bacteria was able to cross through an open cervix. The bacteria then set up colonies and easily reproduced in the excessive uterine tissue. Bacteria will continue to multiply until symptoms become apparent, about one to two months later.

There are two types of pyometra, closed and open. The closed pyometra is an emergency. Dogs that have an “open” pyometra, have a better outcome because the cervix is open, causing purulent vaginal discharge. The “closed” pyometra has a closed cervix causing the purulent discharge to build up in the uterus. The lack of vaginal discharge causes the patient to become very sick due to the buildup of pus in the uterus over time.

In both types, toxins and bacteria leak across the uterine walls and into the bloodstream causing sepsis. The best treatment includes supportive medical care and spaying the dog. The emergency surgical procedure involves complete removal of the ovaries and all the uterus, thereby eliminating the infected and pus filled uterus. Spaying is an irreversible means by which a female dog is rendered sterile. Without surgery death is inevitable.

Before performing any procedure that requires anesthesia, bloodwork is run to confirm your pet’s overall health. This can reveal certain health conditions that could put your pet at risk while under anesthesia. Typically, this bloodwork is completed before the day of surgery for the best surgical and medical planning. There may be situations where we perform this bloodwork here at our hospital on the day of the surgery. If the results are abnormal, the doctor will contact you regarding treatment options.

All animals undergoing anesthesia require an overnight fast and a full day of hospitalization. Our pre-medications and anesthesia can cause nausea during the procedure. If your pet vomits while under anesthesia, they can aspirate the vomit and cause aspiration pneumonia.

A leg is shaved for an intravenous catheter that is placed prior to surgery for direct access to the vein in the event of any complications. Intravenous fluids are also given during surgery to support normal physiologic functions. Our doctors routinely provide an injection of a 24-hour pain reliever at the time of surgery. Additional pain medication is given post-operatively for your pet to take at home.

Please check one of each of the following:

- ❖ Have you **withheld food** from your pet? **Yes** **No**

- ❖ Please check off any of the following **prescription pain medication** your pet has had **in the last 2 days**
 Carprofen Meloxicam Deramaxx Previcox Buprenorphine None

- ❖ Please provide the last date and time the medication was given: _____

- ❖ Please check off any of the following **steroids** your pet has had **in the last 7 days**.
 Prednisone Prednisolone Dexamethasone None

- ❖ Please provide the last date and time the medication was given: _____

- ❖ If you did check off a steroid - The doctor will be made aware and will proceed accordingly with your consent. These medications can affect your pet’s platelets, which allow blood to clot. There can also be adverse gastro-intestinal effects when these pain relievers are given in combination with our pre-surgical medications and pain medications going home with your pet

❖ Please check off any of the following over the counter pain relievers your pet has had in the past 2 days

Baby Aspirin Aspirin Ascription None

❖ Please provide the last date and time the medication was given: _____ Please list any over the counter or prescribed medications or supplements your pet is on. Please indicate the last date/time given

❖ **Postoperative care includes**

- ❖ Daily visual checks of the incision(s) for inflammation and discharge
- ❖ If swelling or discharge is noted, please call our office

- ❖ Incision must stay dry – no bathing or swimming
- ❖ Incision remains free from contaminants such as dirt – no lying on a dirt or dirty bedding
- ❖ Incision remains free from contaminants such as saliva with use of an E-Collar or similar device
- ❖ If your pet had external sutures placed, a suture removal appointment is scheduled for 14 days after the surgery
 - ❖ Some pets may experience mild tissue reaction to suture material. If swelling or discharge is noted, please call our office
- ❖ If absorbable sutures or surgical "glue" is used, a suture removal appointment is not needed
- ❖ Restricted exercise for 14 days

❖ **My signature indicates that any of my questions from the list below have been answered to my satisfaction:**

- ❖ The reasonable medical and/or surgical treatment options for my pet
- ❖ Sufficient details of the procedure to understand what will be performed
- ❖ How fully my pet will recover and how long recovery will take
- ❖ The estimate of the fees for all services
- ❖ Financial responsibilities for services are due at time of discharge

Financial responsibilities for services are due at time of discharge. I also understand that Cranston Animal Hospital, INC. is not staffed 24 hours a day and after hour treatment of patients is at the discretion of the veterinarian.

I, the undersigned owner or agent of the pet named above, certify that **I am 18 years of age or older** and authorize the veterinarians of Cranston Animal Hospital to treat or perform needed procedures on my animal. You are to use all reasonable precautions against pain, injury, or escape of my animal. You will not be held liable or responsible in any manner for unforeseen incidents or accidents caused by the care, treatment, or safekeeping of my pet. It is thoroughly understood that I assume all risks, and that some risks always exist with anesthesia, including prolonged recovery, injury while anesthetized, insufficient anesthetic plane for the planned procedure, unusual behavior (aggression) while the patient is recovering from anesthesia, deafness and (very rarely) death due to unexpected heart or breathing problems during anesthesia. While I accept that all procedures will be performed to the best abilities of the staff at this hospital, I understand that no guarantee or warranty has been made regarding the results that may be achieved. I also understand that Cranston Animal Hospital RB LLC, is not staffed 24 hours a day and after hour treatment of patients is at the discretion of the veterinarian.

Phone number(s) where I can be reached _____

Print Name _____ E-Mail _____

Signature of the owner/agent _____ **Date** _____