

Perineal Hernia

Weakening of the perineal muscles can lead to rupture and herniation of various organs through the defect. This condition is much more common in male patients and patients which are not castrated. There is usually a swelling of variable size, at the side of the anus. Associated clinical signs depend on whether any other structures (i.e. the bladder), have been herniated into the area.

Surgery:

There are several options to manage this condition. The hernia may be repaired by closing it with sutures or by using a flap of muscle or synthetic material. Concurrent castration is recommended to prevent recurrence.

Post-Operative Care:

There will be sutures to the side of the anus that will need to be removed in 10-14 days time. Occasionally, sedation is required to remove them. Often stool softeners are recommended to prevent straining and unwanted tension on the repair. A temporary diet change may aid this.

Strict rest until the sutures are removed is recommended. During this time your pet should only go out on the lead to use the toilet.

Wound Care

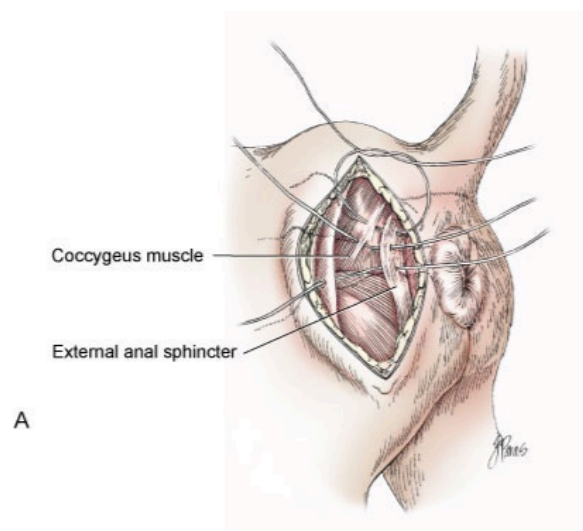
Please check the area twice daily. There should not be any pain, swelling, redness or discharge from the wound. A buster collar should be used to prevent interference for the first 10-14 days after surgery.

Outcome

Outcomes are usually good however, there is the potential for recurrence, especially if there is straining to poo or excess exercise post-operatively. Discomfort passing faeces, infection and incontinence occur rarely.

Risks and Complications

All surgeries have potential complications. Approximately 3-5% of patients develop a post-operative infection. Discomfort passing faeces and/or incontinence occur rarely. Recurrence is possible.



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