**Intestinal Eventration**

This complication is **rare** and generally only occurs following an **open** castration, however it is lifethreatening and immediate action is required. It may occur either as a result of **straining post-operatively** in the presence of **large inguinal rings**, or **secondary to a hernia** present prior to castration. It will normally occur in the first 24 hours post-op, but can occur up to one week following surgery.

**Treatment**

**1) If extended to the level of the thighs**:

* Wrap in a moist clean sheet and rubbish bag to prevent further contamination
* Wash the intestines with warm saline and antibiotic solution
* Identify the vaginal tunic and feed the intestines back through the inguinal ring with or without extending the inguinal ring cranially via a midline laparotomy
* Suture closed or pack the external inguinal ring
* If the bowel is compromised or damaged it may require resection.
* Systemic antibiotics, anti-endotoxins and fluids should be administered

**2) If extended to ground and trodden**:

* Hopeless prognosis
* Euthanasia the only appropriate treatment

Taken from:

*https://en.wikivet.net/Castration\_Complications\_-\_Horse*