**Infection**

Infection can be **superficial** and easily dealt with, or **deeper**, leading to involvement of the **vaginal tunic** and **scirrhous cord**. Any suspicion of infection should be promptly investigated under sedation using a gloved hand. The owners may report a **reduction in appetite** and the horse have a **stiff gait**. The wound itself may be swollen and discharge may be present. Clinical signs include an **increase heart rate**, **respiratory rate** and **temperature** if the infection is severe.

**Champignon** is a specific infection that is normally caused by [*Streptococcus zooepidemicus*](https://en.wikivet.net/Streptococcus_zooepidemicus). It produces mushroom-like growths of granulation tissue from the wound. It is associated with the use of ligatures. Drainage and surgical removal of diseased tissue is necessary to treat this condition.

**Treatment**

Local superficial infection is best dealt with by **enlarging the incision** sites to **improve drainage**, **cold hosing** and **walking** as for oedema and a course of **antibiotic** treatment. If infection is within the vaginal tunic or spermatic cord (**scirrhous cord**), **repeat surgery** is required to **resect all affected tissue** and this may need to be combined with **scrotal ablation** if the scrotal tissue is also oedematous and infected.

Taken from:

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