**Complications of Equine Castration**

* Excessive swelling of the scrotum that can extend down into the lower hind legs. This may be resolved with increased exercise. Severe swelling can indicate an infection.
* Eventration (when a segment of small intestine travels from the abdomen down through the inguinal canal) can also occur after castration.  In a castrated horse with open castration sites, the intestine can descend through the open incisions and disaster can result. This is a true emergency and the veterinarian must be contacted immediately. Emergency surgery must be performed to return the intestine to the abdomen and close the opening to the inguinal canal.
* The horse's omentum, which is a fatty yellow tissue that surrounds some of the abdominal organs, also can protrude through the open incisions. This is called omental eventration. If this happens, the offending omentum will be removed via an emasculator, but this is not life-threatening like intestinal eventration because the omentum will block the inguinal canal and prevent the intestine from coming through
* Post-Operative bleeding at the incision site after surgical castration. If bleeding persists after surgery, then the incision must be packed with gauze to apply pressure and stop the bleeding. In cases of severe bleeding, the horse usually is anesthetized again and the offending blood vessel is ligated (tied) to prevent further hemorrhage.
* If the incision is too small, then the outside skin heals first, serum and blood can accumulate in a pocket and the site will become infected. Sometimes the infection ascends the remaining spermatic cord and surgery needs to be performed to remove the infected tissue. Once this is done, the problem is solved. The incision is once again left open to drain.
* Damage to penis due to incorrect use of emasculator. Horse can develop Paraphimosis.