**POTENTIAL RISKS**

**Entry into body cavity**

* It is possible iatrogenically to introduce material into the animal’s abdominal cavity during removal of the herniated material. Special care must be taken not to invade the animal’s peritoneal cavity.

**Hemorrhage**

* The risk of hemorrhage is greatly increased in older calves
* Observe calves closely for one hour following surgery

**Pain**

* Animals should be monitored during and after the procedure for signs of unnecessary pain, such as vocalization, reluctance to move, and failure to nurse. Such animals should be treated with a systemic analgesic such as flunixin meglumine. Severe pain warrants the attention of a veterinarian.

**Flystrike**

* Post-surgery the incision site should be sprayed with a larvicide spray.
* The use of a fly repellant in the area may be warranted.

**Infection**

* Animals should be monitored for signs of infection in the days following surgery, such as redness, swelling, and discharge.
* Minimize environment exposure, as dust and rain may increase the risk of infection.