**Post-op**

**Post-Surgery**

Following castration, horses should receive a tetanus toxoid booster (if vaccinations are current) or both tetanus toxoid and a tetanus antitoxin injection if the horse has never been vaccinated. Your veterinarian may administer antibiotics/NSAIDS to your horse after surgery. Also an insect repellant should be applied immediately after the castration surgery.

**Shelter**

It is recommended that the horse be placed in a small paddock or stall for 12 to 24 hours for observation to ensure adequate clotting. If the horse is to be stalled, bed the enclosure with fresh shavings or straw.

**Exercise**

Beginning the day after surgery, the horse should be exercised at a trot or on an automatic walker for at least 15 to 20 minutes twice a day to avoid swelling and stimulate drainage of any post-surgical fluid that may have accumulated in the swollen scrotum. Exercise should continue for about two weeks or until healing is complete.

**Post-op Complications**

* scrotal swelling
* edema
* hemorrhage
* incisional infections
* bacterial infection of the spermatic cord
* omental herniation
* eventration (a segment of small intestine travels from the abdomen down through the inguinal canal)
* penile trauma

* hydrocele formation (a collection of fluid within the vaginal cavity, where the testicle resided)
* peritonitis