

Post-Op care, possible complications and prognosis

General

- Standard wound care is done.
- Topical or systemic antibiotics are not indicated.
- If non-absorbable sutures were used suture removal is done approximately two weeks after surgery.
- Constant monitoring for signs of parturition in pregnant mares to remove sutures in cases where this is indicated.

Possible complications

1. Recurrence of pneumovagina.
2. Infection and wound dehiscence.
3. Subsequent episiotomy and urine-pooling correction surgery.
4. Excessive closure of the vulva.
5. Excessive removal of vulval tissue
6. Caslick done on mares with poor perineal conformation that successfully foal should be re-sutured immediately after parturition to minimize the chances of uterine contamination and consequent endometritis. This preventive measure is believed to contribute to adequate pregnancy rates and maintenance of pregnancy until term.
7. Indirect complication associated with the Caslick vulvoplasty is the increased incidence of vulvar lacerations and dystocias in mares in which the vulva was not opened before foaling.
8. Any corrective surgery of the perineal body and vulva should be delayed until inflammation and oedema of the involved tissues have resolved as this can result in wound dehiscence and delayed wound healing.
9. Issues with intromission of the stallion due to smaller vaginal opening.

Prognosis

Good, once other causes of subfertility are not contributory.