

Closed castration



Overview

- Closed castration is a sterile surgical procedure.
- The main difference between an open and closed castration is that the closed castration does not incise the parietal tunic.
- Incision is made only through the scrotum.
- “stripping” – dissection of the scrotal fascia.
- Put traction on the testicle
- Push fascia proximally up the spermatic cord

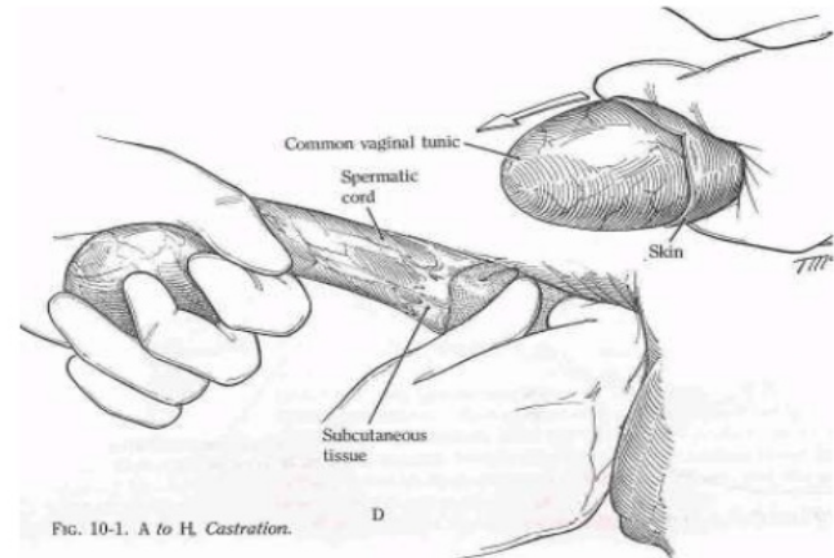


FIG. 10-1. A to H, Castration.



➤ Emasculate:

- In older horses, the cremaster muscle is dissected away from the parietal tunic. The parietal tunic and cremaster muscle are then emasculated separately.
- Ensures tissue is properly crushed.
- Parietal tunic may then be closed using a simple continuous suture or miller's knot.
 - This decreases the possibility of herniation and evisceration.



Procedure

1. Use of the emasculator – emasculator should be placed as close to the inguinal ring as possible. Should be placed toward the abdomen. Emasculator should be left in place for about 60-120 seconds for successful crushing.
2. Incise the skin – an incision should be made about 16-18 cm over each testicle. The incision should go through the skin, tunica dartos and the underlying scrotal fascia.
3. Isolate and transect the spermatic cord – **Do not incise the vaginal tunic.** Separate the vaginal tunic, its contents and the cremaster muscle from the scrotal fascia via a blunt dissection. This can be done using the emasculator.
4. Ligature – the spermatic cord can be ligated with a ligature of 0 or 2 synthetic non absorbable suture material. The ligature is tied around the cord.
5. Removal any excess scrotal skin (improves drainage) and protruding fascia



Advantages & Disadvantages

Advantages:

1. Decrease in post-operative complications.
2. Decrease in evisceration due to ligatures used.

Disadvantages:

1. Increased time for procedure

