



## Laparoscopic neutering of bitches

At our sister practice, Christchurch Veterinary Referrals (on Tuddenham Road), we are excited to offer laparoscopic surgery to our patients as one of our expanding minimally invasive surgical services. We already routinely offer minimally invasive camera assisted investigation and surgery such as arthroscopy (joint surgery), rhinoscopy (nasal cavity), tracheobronchoscopy (airways), and endoscopy (stomach and small intestine).

Laparoscopic, or 'keyhole' surgery uses two or three small 0.5-1cm incisions into the abdomen alongside special instruments and a camera to operate within the abdomen under improved visualisation. This type of surgery has many benefits for the patient and surgeon, and is **especially favourable for routine neutering of female dogs, or 'spay' procedures.**

### Benefits for our patients include:

- Dramatically improved recovery time - days rather than weeks
- Earlier return to normal activity - 24hours rest, followed by 6 days of gentle lead activity
- Lower post-operative pain
- Improved post-operative wound appearance - minimal scarring
- Smaller surgical wounds ( 2-3 0.5-1cm incisions, compared to 5cm+ wound)
- No sutures to be removed
- Reduced risk of wound associated complications

### Other procedures include:

- Cryptorchid castration - removal of retained testicle/s
- Gastropexy - Suturing the stomach to the body wall in dog breeds prone to bloat/gastric torsion
- Abdominal exploration and organ sampling for specific conditions
- Cystoscopy - Investigation and treatment of urinary bladder conditions including stone removal

If you are interested in finding out more, or to arrange a discussion about surgery for your pet then please feel free to get in touch: [cstreet@christchurchvets.co.uk](mailto:cstreet@christchurchvets.co.uk)

More information can also be found here: [LapSpay: Veterinary Endoscopy – the care your pet deserves. \[www.lapspay.com\]](http://www.lapspay.com)

