



What is Laparoscopy?

Laparoscopy is a minimally invasive technique for viewing the internal structures of the abdomen. A laparoscope (camera) inserted through a small incision in the abdominal wall provides magnified high definition views of the internal organs allowing greater surgical precision. Additional small incisions are made to facilitate the use of surgical instruments. The most common application of laparoscopy is biopsy. In recent years, laparoscopy has been adopted as a less traumatic and less painful alternative to traditional spays.



Rushcliffe
VETERINARY CENTRE

Bill Bowler, veterinary surgeon, was one of the first 10 people in the UK to achieve GP Cert. (Endo.) status - the only current UK qualification in Veterinary Endoscopy.

The veterinary team at Rushcliffe Veterinary Centre have now performed hundreds of laparoscopic ovariectomies making them some of the most experienced surgeons in the UK for this type of procedure.

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Laparoscopic Spays

Offering Your Pet
up to 65% Less Pain





Traditional Spays

In a traditional spay a 75mm or longer incision is made in the abdominal wall. There is poor visualisation of organs, and traction on the ovaries and uterus causes pain and bruising. During the procedure the ovarian ligament is torn - this is painful and causes some bleeding. The large surgical incision means a minimum 2 weeks period of lead rest, with higher levels of complications.



Laparoscopic Spays

Laparoscopic spays are performed through two or three abdominal incisions that are 5-10mm in size. Enhanced visualisation of the organs due to the high definition magnified views allows greater surgical precision. For instance, the ovarian ligament is cauterised and cut, rather than torn. This minimises bleeding and pain. A 2 day period of post-operative lead rest is advised. There are over 50% less post operative complications compared with other surgical techniques.

Safer Surgery with Better Outcomes

*Devitt, Chad, DVM, MS, DACVS. *Duration, Complication, Stress and Pain of Open Ovariohysterectomy Versus a Simple Method of Laparoscopy-Assisted Ovariohysterectomy in Dogs.* Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association Vol 227, Number 6 (September 15, 2005)

Advantages of Laparoscopic Spays over Traditional Surgery

- A recent study concluded laparoscopic spays caused less surgical stress and up to 65% less post-operative pain than a traditional open surgical spay.*
- The surgery is performed through a few tiny incisions rather than a single larger one. Smaller incisions are less painful and reduce recovery time and post operative complications.
- Laparoscopy allows for better visualisation of abdominal organs.
- Greater surgical precision minimises pain and blood loss.
- Average 2 day post operative recovery period.
- In larger breed dogs, gastropexy can be performed at the time of spay.