



Splenectomy

This surgical procedure involves an incision into the abdomen to remove the spleen from the body.

Potential Complications (during surgery and/or during recovery)

- Dehiscence (sutures coming undone)
- Swelling/inflammation at the incision site
- Seroma (a pocket of fluid)
- Infection
- Slow/delayed recovery
- Frequent urination
- Bloody urine

Potential Severe Complications

- Hemorrhage (excessive bleeding)
- Cardiac arrhythmias (irregular heart rhythm)



Potential Anesthetic Complications

- Airway irritation
- Low blood pressure
- Hypothermia/hyperthermia
- Cardiovascular collapse
- Respiratory depression
- Gastric reflux
- Aspiration pneumonia
- Hypoxic brain damage
- Embolism

Recovery Time

Your pet will be monitored closely during surgery, as she awakens from anesthesia, and until stabilized after surgery (generally 24 to 48 hours). Although rare, some pets require blood transfusion if too much blood has been lost. The length of your pet's stay will depend on how they recover. At the time of discharge, you will receive instructions for at home care and exercise restriction.

A second surgical procedure may be needed if tissue becomes necrotic (dead), there is evidence of concerning infection/tissue compromise, or if complications occur both during recovery, or once your pet is sent home.