

# Pain Levels and Recovery Comparison



Traditional Spay <sup>1</sup>	Vessel Sealing <sup>2</sup>	Laparoscopic Spay <sup>3</sup>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Slowest recovery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Faster recovery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Fastest recovery</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Extended period of activity restriction &amp; possible need for pain medication</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Minimal activity restriction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Minimal activity restriction</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ May require an overnight stay</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Normally performed as an outpatient surgery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Normally performed as an outpatient surgery</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Longer surgery time can increase complications</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Shorter surgery time means less anesthesia and risk of complication</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Shorter surgery time means less anesthesia and risk of complication</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Large incision</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Medium incision</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Small incisions</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Ovarian ligament is stretched or torn</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Ovarian ligaments are permanently sealed off in place instead of being torn</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Telescope camera used for enhanced visualization to seal ovarian ligament</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Increased tissue trauma, pain, bleeding and bruising</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Considerably decreased tissue trauma, pain, bleeding, and bruising</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Significantly decreased tissue trauma, pain, bleeding, and bruising</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup>Tobias KM, Johnston SA. Veterinary Surgery: Small Animal: 2-Volume Series. (New York: Saunders, 2002: 1876-1878.)

<sup>2</sup>Peterson SW, Ostwald DA. Soft tissue surgical advances using vessel sealing technology. Wheat Ridge Veterinary Specialists. March 2009.

<sup>3</sup>Hutchison R. Laparoscopic spay of the female canine and feline. Small Animal Endoscopy, Third Edition. 2011: 466-467

(2) Vessel Sealing procedure (Yellow Category) involves performing a traditional spay with a vessel sealing device (Covidien Animal Health) to cauterize, seal and cut the ovarian blood vessels.  
 (3) Laparoscopic spay procedure (Green Category) involves using the vessel sealing device along with the laparoscope for visualization.

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

\*\* Comparison of long-term effects of ovariectomy versus ovariohysterectomy in bitches. Journal of Reproduction and Fertility. Suppl. 1997; 51: 227-31

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