



SOUTH NOWRA VETERINARY HOSPITAL

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To whom it may concern,

Early age spay or neuter surgery is a safe sensible way to help control pet overpopulation and is recommended for all pets. Younger animals have a less developed reproductive tract making surgery safer and less traumatic. Young puppies recover faster with fewer complications compared with older patients.

Early age spay and neuter surgery is endorsed by veterinary associations including the Australian Veterinary Association and the American Veterinary Medical Association. Small breed dogs can have their first heat and risk of pregnancy as early as five months of age.

Early age desexing means the females have no risk of becoming pregnant and a greatly reduced risk of mammary cancers or risk of pyometra and other uterine disorders. When male puppies are castrated at an early age they do not develop undesirable sexual behaviours like roaming or urinating frequently to mark their territory.

Research during the past two decades since early age spay and neuter has been promoted has demonstrated little to no adverse physiologic effects of sterilization before sexual maturity. Anaesthetic agents used today are safe for young puppies.

To neuter or spay at an early age is advantageous in that it is safe, quick and has no long-term adverse effects.

Yours Sincerely

Dr Glynis Kuipers
BVSc. hons.