- Check for bleeding as the cord slips back into the patient

- Trim any tissue that will hang down from the incision after the patient stands up

- Clean the scrotum

- Remove the leg rope

- Pull the down forelimb forward.  This will prevent the radial nerve from falling asleep

- Beginning the day after surgery, the horse should be exercised at a trot or on an automatic walker for at least 15 to 20 minutes twice a day to avoid swelling and stimulate drainage of any post-surgical fluid that may have accumulated in the swollen scrotum. Exercise should continue for about two weeks or until healing is complete.

- Open incision - left to heal by second intention

* stable rest 24 hours
* daily exercise in small paddock
* daily hydrotherapy to help control swelling
* Incisions will heal in 2-3 weeks

- Closed scrotal skin for first intention healing

* box rest for 24 hours, hand walk 7-10 days
* monitor scrotum closely for signs of swelling, pain, inflammation, drainage
* isolate the gelding from mares for at least 2-3 days after castration. After 2 days, ejaculates are highly unlikely to contain sufficient spermatozoa to cause impregnation.
* regularly inspect surgical site for complications, swelling, discharge especially in first few hours
* don’t unnecessarily interfere with wounds
* treat entire colt for at least 4 – 6 weeks

**Open Method**

* movement is recommended to help drainage – i.e. daily lunging at a trot
* hydrotherapy to decrease swelling

**Closed Method**

* keep confined to allow time for healing by primary intention
* isolation from mares for minimum 2 days due to active sperm

- Depending upon the horse’s age and maturity level, it may take several weeks for the testosterone levels to decrease. Aggression, especially to other horses, may still be seen for this short period of time. However, stallions castrated after maturity (six years old or older), especially those that have bred mares, may continue to possess stallion-like behavior, which could include the development of an erection and an attempt to mount and breed mares in estrus.

Semen remains in the horse’s accessory sex glands and the portion of the vas deferens not removed during surgery. There is usually enough present for one ejaculation. Therefore, gelded mature horses should be quarantined from mares for 14 to 30 days post-surgery.