



Cystotomy | What the Procedure Involves

This surgical procedure involves an incision into the abdomen to remove stones from the bladder and/or obtain a biopsy of the bladder wall.

Potential Complications

(during surgery and/or during recovery)

- Hemorrhage (excessive bleeding)
- 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

- Electrolyte derangements
- Cardiac arrhythmias (irregular heart rhythm)
- Bladder tear/rupture
- Sepsis/peritonitis
- Urethral spasm/stricture
- Incomplete removal of stones



Potential Anesthetic Complications

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

Recovery Time

Your pet will be monitored closely during surgery, as it awakens from anesthesia, and until stabilized after surgery (generally 24 to 48 hours). 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 restrictions.

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.