

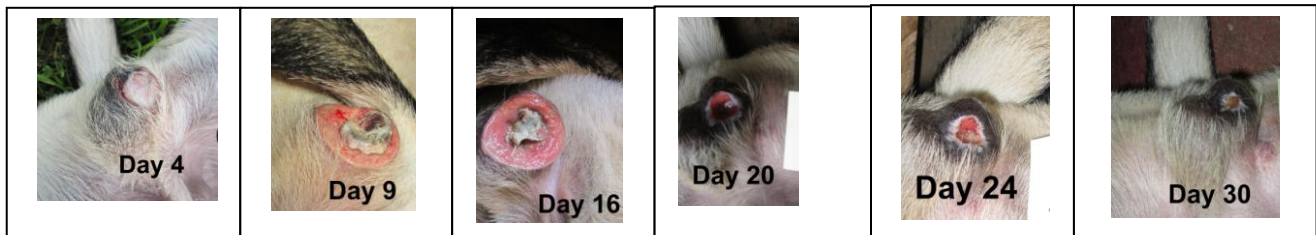
Complications that may occur

Following injection with calcium chloride in ethyl alcohol, testicles in most dogs will swell for up to three weeks. Swelling may double the size of the testis. Swelling is not accompanied by clinical signs of pain or discomfort in most dogs. If pain is noted symptomatic therapy may be used as needed. Below is normal swelling.



If calcium chloride is leaked outside of the testicle

Tissue necrosis of the scrotum will occur if calcium chloride is leaked outside of the testicle. The lesion is generally not accompanied by fever, loss of appetite or lethargy. The lesion seen below was sprayed with clean water followed by mild salt water (1/2 teaspoon salt to 16 oz. of water) twice daily for seven days. Antibiotics can be used if secondary bacterial infections occur.



A lesion may develop when swelling causes the scrotum to have prolonged contact with the medial thigh. The lesion will resolve in about the same amount of time as the testicular necrosis, but there may be some discomfort. Limiting activity and symptomatic therapy for pain is useful.



Calcium chloride has not been shown to significantly reduce testosterone in dogs with testis over 25 mm, or most dogs over 50 pounds.

Lesions are more likely to occur in dogs housed on any abrasive surface including concrete.

If necessary use a cone or collar made of towels to prevent licking.

As with castration, behavioral changes are not guaranteed following the use of calcium chloride.

Calcium chloride should not be used in young puppies without easily palpable testis.

Calcium chloride should be removed promptly from the skin and/or mucosal surfaces if contact should occur.