

The Ovarian Remnant Syndrome in the Bitch and Queen

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Abstract This paper describes the causes of the syndrome, the clinical presentation of the patient, the diagnosis and the treatment of ovarian remnant syndrome in dogs and cats. Ovarian remnant syndrome is a well-known long-term complication of ovariectomy or ovariohysterectomy which is caused by the presence of an active ovarian tissue despite an elective surgery. As a result of leaving or dropping some ovarian tissue in the abdomen or because of an ectopic ovarian tissue, typical clinical signs of proestrous or oestrous, such as swollen vulva, vaginal bleeding or behavioral changes develop. The diagnostic approaches are vaginal cytology, gonadal hormone measurements, ultrasonography and exploratory laparotomy. Surgical excision of the ovarian mass is the recommended treatment which is a difficult process. Prevention is the best way to avoid the development of the ovarian remnant syndrome. Sufficient abdominal wall incision to visualize the surgical area, proper ligation of the reproductive organs and total removal of both ovaries without leaving any ovarian tissues has crucial importance in prevention of the syndrome.

Keywords: Bitch, Estrus, Incomplete ovariectomy, Ovarian remnant, Queen
