MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY

SAGE surgeons are skilled in multiple types of minimally invasive surgery. Instead of using a single long incision, the surgeon makes several small incisions and performs surgery with the aid of a small camera and special instruments. The primary advantage of minimally invasive over traditional open surgery is decreased post-operative pain, which generally requires less pain medication and provides your pet with a more rapid return to normal attitude and appetite.

The following types of minimally invasive surgeries are performed by SAGE surgeons.

• Arthroscopy (joints)
Commonly performed arthroscopies include shoulder, elbow, and knee joint evaluations and treatments.

• Laparoscopy (abdomen)
When traditional open surgery is not required, our surgeons can use laparoscopy to assess abdominal structures and biopsy organs. Laparoscopy may also be used to perform cryptorchid neuters (for retained testicles), prophylactic stomach tacking (gastropexy), and spays (ovariohysterectomy or ovarietomy).

• Thoracoscopy (chest)
This procedure allows SAGE surgeons to assess the organs inside the chest, as well as to obtain biopsies. Thoracoscopy can sometimes be used to remove part of the pericardial sac (pericardiectomy) to treat fluid accumulation around the heart. It can also be used to remove infected or cancerous lung in certain cases.

We provide comprehensive specialized care for your pet through the integration of science and compassion.

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CONCORD
1410 Monument Boulevard
Phone: (925) 627-7243
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DUBLIN
7121 Amador Plaza Road
Phone: (925) 574-7243
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REDWOOD CITY
934 Charter Street
Phone: (650) 417-7243
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www.sagecenters.com
At SAGE, our doctors and staff recognize the need for pain management in our patients. We address pain via many pathways, ranging from the administration of medications to providing cozy cage or kennel bedding. We understand that by paying attention to our patients’ comfort, that we can decrease their stress response even without drugs. This is important because increased stress response is linked to prolonged recovery, delayed healing, and possible compromise to the immune system.

SAGE’s emphasis on minimizing pain extends to surgical techniques. All of our surgeons have gone through extra training to help minimize tissue trauma and inflammation, leading to shorter recovery times.

Following surgery, patients recover in our 24-hour critical care unit (CCU), where they receive continuous monitoring and support. We start rehabilitation immediately after surgery by having our veterinary technicians apply frequent cold compresses to post-operative patients overnight. Our dedicated critical care staff is also responsible for providing nutrition, medication, and TLC. After surgery, there are several things your surgeon will ask you to do at home to help your pet heal as quickly as is appropriate. Activity will likely need to be restricted for several weeks. Additionally, your pet should not be allowed to lick, chew, or scratch at the surgical site. For orthopedic surgery, certain physical rehabilitation exercises may also be recommended. Detailed written homecare instructions from your doctor will be provided when your pet is released from the hospital.

Each SAGE hospital has multiple state-of-the-art sterile operating rooms. Our doctors and staff are committed to maintaining the highest levels of safety and cleanliness.