

# The Beaming Difference

## Laser Surgery VS. The Scalpel

### LASER SURGERY

At Aspen Grove Veterinary Care, every surgical cut we make is done with a 20-watt CO2 Surgical Laser. Laser surgery has been our standard of care for years.

This laser produces an extremely powerful and concentrated beam of light. In fact, our surgical laser creates a beam that is even more powerful than a similarly-sized beam leaving the surface of the sun.

Because of its power, the laser has the unique ability to vaporize tissue. The laser can be used to make incisions, as well as to 'erase' or vaporize unhealthy tissue. The laser is so precise that we can selectively remove only a few cells at a time.

When an incision is made using a surgical laser, only the intense beam of light touches your pet, which minimizes tissue damage, destroys surface bacteria, and seals blood vessels as it cuts.

### THE SCALPEL

The scalpel has been used in surgery for decades because the blades are disposable and they are inexpensive to buy.

While scalpel surgery has served our society well, it is now considered a crude and less than ideal method. Using a scalpel can bruise or crush tissue as it cuts. The incision causes inflammation of the affected skin and tissue, because of the interaction with the circulatory and lymphatic systems.

When a scalpel is used to make an incision, small blood vessels continue to bleed during and after surgery. This causes more of a chance for infection due to bacteria, more bleeding, blood clots and excessive swelling. The extra bleeding can also obscure the surgical field which can increase surgery and anesthesia time.

The choice is clear!

# LESS

Reduced trauma to tissue, along with the laser's ability to seal nerve endings as it cuts results in less pain.

## pain

The laser seals blood vessels as it removes tissue, providing a clear view of the surgical field and reducing surgical time.

## bleeding

The laser does not mechanically traumatize tissue. It seals the lymphatics minimizing edema.

## swelling

The laser's high intensity destroys surface bacteria producing a sanitizing effect to the surgical field.

## infection

### Common uses for the surgical laser

- Cat declaws
- Spays and neuters
- Soft Tissue & Orthopedic Surgeries
- Amputations
- Oral/dental procedures
- Mass removals
- Dermatology (mole/growth removal)



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