

# Castrating a ruptured pig

Instructor check when completed

## PREPARATION

*This procedure is best carried out at time of castration*

- 1 Ensure that the following materials are present in the medical tray:-
  - ➔ Alcohol
  - ➔ Surgical blade
  - ➔ Sterile syringe
  - ➔ 1½" suture needles and nylon suture
  - ➔ Scissors and forceps
  - ➔ Antibiotic
  - ➔ Antiseptic solution
- 2 Identify piglets requiring rupture repair

## PROCEDURE

- 1 Wash hands thoroughly and particularly ensure that nails are clean
- 2 The pig can either be held by an assistant in a vertical position (head down and abdomen facing the operator) or fastened to a board securing the pig in the same position.
- 3 Gently feel to determine if either one or both sides of the scrotum contain viscera
- 4 Inject the pig intramuscularly in the neck with an antibiotic following the department ***Treatment protocol***



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## PROCEDURE (cont'd)

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|----|--|
| 5  | Place the thumb and forefinger around the testicle on the ruptured side and squeeze close to the skin  |
| 6  | Carefully cut through the outer body skin and tissues but do not cut into the tunic which surrounds the testicle   |
| 7  | Take hold of the testicle and tunic and gently squeeze the intestines back into the body cavity by running the thumb and forefinger along the tunic                  |
| 8  | Twist the tunic and then hold on firmly so that the intestines do not re-enter the tunic   |
| 9  | Push the suture needle and suture through the tunic as close to the body as possible. Wind the ends of the suture both ways around the tunic, pull tight and tie off |
| 10 | Cut through the tunic, spermatic cord and blood vessels on the outer side of the suture and remove the testicle  |
| 11 | Repeat the process on the other side if both sides were ruptured or remove the other testicle as in the <b><i>Castrating piglets</i></b> procedure                   |
| 12 | Suture the scrotal incision/s on the ruptured side/s leaving a small opening at the base of the incision for drainage  |
| 13 | Return the pig to its crate and note its location so that the pig's progress may be monitored  |

