

Hormonal Castration

- Chemical or immunocastration is reversible
- Reduction in testosterone production for approximately 6 months
- Immunocontraceptives is a vaccine given SC that causes antibody production against GnRH (Gonadotropin Releasing Hormone) resulting in a decrease in endogenous hormone production
- The GnRH is blocked and inactivates the hormone cascade resulting in inactivated testes
- It increases live weight and daily gain when compared to surgical procedures
- Also need to do repeated injections (boosters) to maintain the effectiveness of the hormones (anti-GnRH antibody titres need to be maintained in the blood above the necessary threshold to neutralize the GnRH released from the brain.)

<https://www.avma.org/sites/default/files/resources/castration-cattle-bgnd.pdf>