

Care of your Cat following Fracture Repair

Patients name:

Primary-care Vet:

The following medications have been dispensed for your cat. Please ensure **all doses** are given. If you are having difficulty administering medications or your cat develops diarrhoea or vomiting please contact your veterinarian **immediately**.

Medication:	Dosage:	When to start:
Antibiotic:	Givedaily for days
Anti-inflammatory:	Givedaily for days
Opioid pain relief:	Givedaily for days
Other:	Givedaily for days

Key Points for Aftercare:

The operation site will have been clipped (other sites may also have been clipped for administering drugs and fluids etc). Avoid your cat interfering with the surgical (and other clipped) site/s. Most wounds will be covered with a light adhesive dressing and this often works loose, or can be removed, after the first 48 hours. Some cats need to wear an Elizabethan protective collar to prevent attention to the stitches or dressings. If necessary, this should stay in place until the stitches are removed. It is important your cat **not be allowed** to lick the surgical wound, as this may introduce infection.

Your cat should be kept confined to restrict activity (cage of sufficient size to accommodate bedding, food and water bowls and litter tray). Confinement should be maintained **at all times** until follow up radiographs have been obtained and/or your Vet has specifically indicated that confinement may cease.

Some swelling of the operated limb in the days following surgery is normal. **Ice packs** for 10 to 15 minutes several times daily **are recommended** in the first few days following surgery to reduce swelling and improve comfort. Regular, gentle massage (e.g. sweeping motions from toes to hip or shoulder) may help dissipate oedema fluid.

If the surgical site is causing excessive irritation, is discharging or if you are concerned swelling is excessive please seek veterinary advice.

Range-of-motion exercises on the operated limb may be performed several times daily, but **ONLY** if tolerated. Exercise each major joint of the operated limb e.g. for forelimb exercise carpus (wrist), elbow, shoulder, for hindlimb exercise tarsus (ankle), stifle (knee) and hip.

Re-examinations with Your Vet:

- **Morning** after surgery if your cat was discharged the same day as surgery
- **2 - 3 days** following surgery: post surgery check-up
- **10 to 14 days** after surgery: suture/staple removal and/or check on wound healing
- **weeks** following surgery: X-rays will typically be taken so please bring your cat in fasted
- Additional visits as indicated by your Vet

Please note that additional fees may be incurred at re-examinations. Please ask your vet about relevant fees.

Gradual improvement should be expected following surgery. If deterioration occurs please seek veterinary advice.

Declaration:

I confirm receipt of this aftercare handout (2 pages). I understand that variation from the instructions contained herein may increase the risk of post-surgical complications or otherwise affect outcome; I should only make variations if **specifically advised** to do so by my Vet.

Owner's signature:

Vet's Signature:

Print Name:

Print Name:

Date:

Date: