

## Care of your cat following fracture repair

The following medications have been dispensed. Please ensure **all doses** are given. If you are having difficulty dosing medications or your pet develops diarrhoea or vomiting, please seek **immediate** veterinary advice.

### Medication:

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### 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, and any bandages/dressings. Most wounds will be covered with a light adhesive dressing, and this often works loose or can be removed, after three to five days. It is advisable your cat wear an Elizabethan protective collar to prevent attention to stitches or dressings. If necessary, this should stay in place until the stitches/dressings are removed.

### Confinement and permitted activity:

Confine to a cage large enough to comfortably accommodate a litter tray, bed and food and water bowls. 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.

### Care of bandages:

A bandage, splinted bandage or cast has been applied to the operated limb. It is extremely important the dressings are well cared for to minimise the risk of complications.

If the dressing slips or becomes wet or soiled, it may not perform its functions properly. This can lead to complications, including pressure sores, which can become serious.

Squeeze the digits of your cat's paw (toes) morning and evening to check for normal sensation. If your cat is not responding normally contact your Vet immediately.

Check the dressing daily, especially the top and bottom, and if any of the following occur, contact your Vet promptly:

- if there is a change in the shape or position of the dressing
- if your cat chews excessively at the dressing or is otherwise distracted by it
- if there are signs that the dressing is causing discomfort
- if there are unusual or bad odours from the dressing
- if there is any unexplained soiling of the dressing
- if sores develop at the top of the dressing
- if there is swelling of the limb
- if there are any signs of generalised illness (e.g. depression, loss of appetite)

### Re-examinations with your vet:

- **Morning** after surgery if your cat was discharged the same day as surgery
- **3 days** following surgery: post-surgery check-up
- **7- 10 days** after surgery: check on wound healing (+/- suture/staple removal, if present).
- Bandage/splint changes will need to be performed at regular intervals of 5 to 7 days (never exceed 7 days); more frequent changes may be necessary if pressure sores develop.
- **6 weeks** following surgery: X-rays will typically be taken so please bring your cat in fasted

**Gradual improvement should be expected following surgery. If deterioration occurs, please contact your vet immediately.**

Variation from these aftercare instructions may increase the risk of post-surgical complications or otherwise affect outcome; only make variations if **specifically advised** to do so by your vet.