

Care of your cat following surgery to correct patella luxation

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 vet **immediately**.

Medication:

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 three to five days. It is advisable your cat wears an Elizabethan protective collar to prevent attention to the stitches or dressings. If necessary, this should stay in place until the wound has healed/stitches are removed. Your cat mustn't be **allowed** to lick the surgical wound, as this may introduce infection.

Some swelling of the operated limb following surgery is normal (especially fluid accumulation around the hock). **Ice packs** for 10 to 15 minutes 3 to 6 times daily are recommended (if tolerated) in the first few days following surgery to reduce swelling and improve comfort.

If the surgical site is causing excessive irritation, is **discharging** or if you are concerned **swelling** is excessive, please contact your vet.

Confinement and permitted activity:

Confine appropriately to eliminate **running** and **jumping** for 8 weeks.

- **First 4 weeks:** confine to a cage of sufficient size to comfortably accommodate food and water bowls, bedding and a litter tray.
- **Weeks 5 to 8:** confine to a small, unfurnished room.

Re-examinations with your vet:

- The morning after surgery if your cat was discharged the same day as the surgery
- **3 - 5 days** following surgery: post-surgery check-up
- **10 to 14 days** after surgery: check on wound healing (suture/staple removal where present).
- **4 weeks** following surgery: X-rays will typically be taken so please bring your cat in fasted
- **8 weeks** following surgery: progress check

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

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