

Care of your Dog following Fracture Repair

Patients name:

Primary-care veterinary surgeon:

The following medications have been dispensed for your dog. Please ensure **all doses** are given. If you are having difficulty administering medications or your dog 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 pet interfering with the surgical (and other clipped) site/s. Some dogs need to wear an Elizabethan protective collar to prevent attention to the bandage. If necessary, this should stay in place until the stitches are removed. It is important your pet **not be allowed** to lick the surgical wound, as this may introduce infection.

Your dog should be kept confined to restrict activity (ideally to a large cage, or alternatively a single room **devoid of furniture** with non-slip flooring). Running and particularly **jumping** must be avoided at all times. Short **leash** walks in the garden (several minutes four to six times daily) are recommended to allow toileting. Confinement should be maintained **at all other times** until follow up radiographs have been obtained and/or your Veterinarian has specifically indicated that confinement may cease.

Care of Bandages

A 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 dog's paw (toes) morning and evening to check for normal sensation. If your dog 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 veterinary surgeon promptly:

- if there is a change in the shape or position of the dressing
- if your pet 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 Veterinarian:

- **Morning** after surgery if your dog was discharged the same day as surgery
- **2-3 days** following surgery: post surgery check-up
- **5 -7 days** following surgery: check/change bandage/cast
- **weekly** thereafter: check/change bandage/cast
- _____ **weeks** following surgery: remove bandage/cast . X-rays will typically be taken so please bring your pet 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 veterinarian.

Owner's signature:

Veterinarian's Signature:

Print Name:

Print Name:

Date:

Date: