

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.

Hydrotherapy is beneficial to recovery but should only be performed in a centre with qualified personnel.

- Hydrotherapy may commence **after** _____ **weeks**.
- If no entry above please discuss an appropriate time to commence hydrotherapy with your Vet.

Re-examinations with Your Vet:

- **Morning** after surgery if your dog was discharged the same day as surgery
- **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 pet in fasted
- Any 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:

Veterinary Surgeon's Signature:

Print Name:

Print Name:

Date:

Date: