



## **Fracture Splinting Aftercare Information Sheet**

Joshua Bruce, DVM, DACVS-SA

**Patient:** {PATIENT FULL NAME}

**Date:** January 31, 2022

**Presenting Complaint:** Fracture of the \_\_\_\_\_

**Diagnostics:** Two view radiographs of the \_\_\_\_\_ revealed \_\_\_\_\_.

**Diagnosis:**

**Surgery:** {NAME} did not have surgery for this fracture. We are trying conservative management with a splint at this time.

**Prognosis:** After healing takes place, {NAME} should be able to walk normally again. During times of weather changes or if out in the cold for a while, some pets will experience some discomfort.

**Convalescent Period:** Most fractures heal in six to eight weeks. {NAME} should be touching the toes to the ground at a walk with time (about two weeks). From this point on, the lameness should gradually resolve. If you notice that {NAME} loses the ability to use the limb give us a call.

**Medications:**

1. **Rimadyl (\_\_\_ mg):** Give 1 tablet by mouth every 12 hours with food. Please watch for signs of gastrointestinal upset: loss of appetite, vomiting, diarrhea, and black stools. If these signs occur your pet could be sensitive to these medications and they should be discontinued and your veterinarian contacted. This medication can be started at home.
2. **Gabapentin (\_\_\_ mg):** Give 1 capsule by mouth every 8-12 hours as needed for pain relief. This medication may cause sedation. This medication can be started at home.

**Diet:** Normal

**Exercise:** Restrict activity for the next 8 weeks. Short leash walks are permitted for urination and bowel movements only. No running, jumping, climbing stairs or roughhousing with other pets or people. Strenuous activity can break down the repair that was performed, and thus prevent successful recovery.

**Bandage:** The bandage should stay on for about \_\_\_ total weeks. It should be kept dry and clean. Place a bag over the bottom of the bandage when going outside and remove the bag when back inside. Check the toes twice daily for swelling or coldness. If any problems arise please call Dr. {RDVM}. The bandage should be changed with Dr. {RDVM} each week (every 5-7 days). Please make an appointment to do so.

**Recheck Radiographs:** Please schedule an appointment with Dr. {RDVM} in 8 weeks to have radiographs repeated to evaluate healing. The appointment can be a drop off appointment and {NAME} may need to be sedated for the x-rays. Please do not feed breakfast the morning of the appointment.

Clinician: Joshua Bruce, DVM, DACVS-SA

***Thank you for allowing us to care for {NAME}!***