



Fracture Surgery Aftercare Information Sheet

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Patient: {PATIENT FULL NAME}

Date: January 31, 2022

Presenting Complaint: Fracture of the ____.

Diagnostics: Radiographs of the ____ revealed _____. Pre-operative bloodwork was unremarkable.

Diagnosis:

Surgery: {NAME} had a fracture repair of the ____ performed with a _____. {NAME} did well under anesthesia and recovered without incident.

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 a veterinarian contacted. This medication was given in hospital at _____.
2. **Antibiotics (___mg):** Give 1 tablet by mouth every 12 hours with food. This is an antibiotic medication. This medication was given in hospital at _____.
3. **Gabapentin (___mg):** Give 1 capsule by mouth every 8-12 hours as needed for pain relief. This medication may cause sedation. This medication was given in hospital at _____.

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.

Incision: Once the bandage is removed, please check the incision for signs of infection: redness, swelling, pain or discharge. Do not allow {NAME} to lick at the incision. An Elizabethan collar should be worn at all times until the sutures and bandages have been removed.

Suture Removal: Please have the sutures removed by Dr. {RDVM} 10-14 days from the day of surgery. This can be coordinated with a bandage change. Please make an appointment with Dr. {RDVM} in that time frame.

Bandage: The bandage should stay on for about ____ weeks after the surgery. 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 give us a call. The bandage should be changed with Dr. {RDVM} each week (every 5-7 days). Please make an appointment to do so.

Recheck: Please make an appointment with Dr. {RDVM} 8 weeks from the time of surgery for follow-up radiographs to evaluate healing at the fracture site. This can be a drop off appointment and {NAME} may have to be sedated. 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}!