

# London Veterinary Services

— in-house surgical referrals —

**IMPORTANT DISCHARGE INSTRUCTIONS:** Please read this form carefully when you get home.

We have performed a trochlea groove replacement to treat medial patella luxation. This takes a minimum of 8 weeks to heal. No surgical repair can withstand the rigors of normal exercise, and we must be vigilant to protect the repair very carefully during the early healing phase.

- Every cat should be cage rested for a total of 4 weeks. After 4 weeks cats should be confined to a room for a further 4 weeks.
- Running and jumping will increase the forces acting on the repair by 5-10 times, and can cause acute surgical failure.
- Comfort levels should be good straight away and the leg should be used consistently within 1-3 days of surgery. Most dogs will feel good enough to exercise, and it is an owners' responsibility to prevent them doing so.
- It is also very important that the suture line is protected from self-trauma. Please use the E-collar for 10days. **Remember, it can only take a single lick to cause a problematic infection.** Any surgical skin wounds should be clean, dry and free from any noxious odours. Please call us if you have any concerns regarding the appearance of the skin wounds.
- Please use the dispensed painkiller as instructed. Side effects are unusual but include general malaise, vomiting, or diarrhoea. Please call us if you notice any of these problems or if you think you may have accidentally given the wrong dose.
- We expect all animals to urinate within 24-48 hours of going home, and to defaecate within 4-5 days. If this does not happen, or you notice straining without passing of anything, please phone us for advice.

- The initial reassessment to check limb function is performed in 7 days time. After that checks should be made at 2, 4 and 8 weeks. If you have any worries at all regarding instructions for exercise restriction, medications, limb function, or the ongoing plan, please call us. We will give you some advice over the phone, and sometimes organise an early re-check.
- We will perform a re-assessment after 8 weeks, at which time a sedative will be given to allow radiographs to be taken to assess the bony healing. The exact time of this reassessment will be established at the time of discharge. Please remember not to give any food on the morning of this recheck. There may still be some lameness present at this time but this should generally resolve by 3 months post surgery.

Visit us: [londonveterinaryservices.co.uk](http://londonveterinaryservices.co.uk)

Passionate about Surgery. Compassionate about Pets.