

# London Veterinary Services

— in-house surgical referrals —

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

We have performed a surgical fracture repair using plates and screws to fix the fractured pelvis. Fractures of the ischium and pubis will heal with cage rest. 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.

Please follow the instructions below very carefully:

- Use a cage all the time until radiographs are taken at 8 weeks to assess healing. Most pets will feel good enough to exercise, and it is an owners' responsibility to prevent them doing so. Exercise outside the cage will always jeopardize the surgical repair.
- Every dog we send home with a repaired fracture is caged for a minimum of 8 weeks. Minimal attention in the cage is often less stressful for confined patients. The only chance to allow the fracture to heal without complications is with absolute rest. After a week's cage rest I recommend controlled lead exercise 5mins three times daily increasing by 5mins three times daily each week to a maximum of 15mins three times daily.
- Any surgical skin wounds should be clean, dry and free from any noxious odours.
- 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.
- Please use the painkillers as directed. 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.

- 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 x-rays to be taken to assess healing of the fracture site. Please remember not to give any food on the morning of this recheck.

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

Passionate about Surgery. Compassionate about Pets.