

London Veterinary Services

— in-house surgical referrals —

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

We have performed a femoral head and neck excision to remove the diseased bone at the top of the femur. The hind leg is then supported by muscle rather than bone and this needs to strengthen to take full weight over time. Some cats take 3 months for a full recovery. Please follow the instructions below very carefully:

- I recommend cage rest for the first 10days to allow the muscles to heal. After 10days cats can have the run of the house to allow them to build up muscle and strengthen their legs. After 6 weeks house/room rest cats may be let outside again.
- 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 on the labels either on the food or directly into the mouth. 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 remove any skin sutures and check limb function is performed in 10 days time. 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 7days, 3 weeks, 6 weeks and 10 weeks. Long term some cats will drop at the hip a little when walking, this is not related to pain. The hip is no longer supported by a rigid joint but by a muscle sling which allows some movement when loading.

Visit us: londonveterinaryservices.co.uk

Passionate about Surgery. Compassionate about Pets.