

## Post-operative Care – Cat Fracture Repair

**Pet Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Your pet has had their broken bone fixed with metal implants. We have used:

### Caring for your pet after an anaesthetic

Your pet may still be a bit sleepy from the anaesthetic so should be kept warm and quiet at home.

The after-effects of the anaesthetic may persist for a couple of days.

Offer food and water after the surgery. Your pet will need nutrition to start healing.

Any clipped hair will start growing back after a couple of weeks.

**Medications: (continue to give any other prescribed medications as instructed)**

Medication	Reason	Amount per dose	Frequency of dosing	Start on

### Post op Appointments:

Post op Check	With	Date	Time	Other Instructions
1				
2				
3				
4				

For VetCW checks, do not feed after 10pm the night before your appointment, but do give water

### Post op Instructions:

- Please do not allow your pet to lick or interfere with any surgical wounds and use the buster collar or pet shirt provided. Some redness and inflammation around a wound is normal, but seek veterinary advice if this increases. **Some wounds produce a clear/yellow/pink odourless fluid which is normal.** If it changes to yellow, brown or starts to smell, please seek veterinary advice
- Your cat may have been discharged with a bandage for extra support and to help reduce swelling, if this gets wet or slips please call and arrange an appointment with your veterinary practice.
- For the first 10-14days your cat should be strictly rested in a cage big enough for a litter tray and food and water.
- Depending on the fracture Colin may recommend allowing your cat to have supervised small room exercise to minimise muscle wastage.
- After your 6 week post op radiographs as long as everything is healing correctly Colin will advise allowing your cat to roam around the house and increase activity.
- By 10 to 12 weeks your cat should be able to go back to normal outside activity.
- With restricted rest your cat may start to gain weight so weigh their food for the desired weight and feed little and often to keep them occupied.

We do hope your pet has a speedy recovery. If you have any issues, please contact your regular practice for advice. They will contact us if necessary but should be able to help with most questions.

Kind regards,

Colin Whiting and the VetCW Surgical team

## PHYSIOTHERAPY

Most cats won't tolerate physiotherapy, but if you feel your cat may like the interaction please see the chart below.

Week	Exercise
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Swelling of the surgical site is common and some bruising may be visible.</li> <li>Apply ice packs for 5 to 10 minutes 3 times a day. Frozen peas wrapped in a towel will work well, avoid direct contact with surgical site.</li> <li>Please prevent your cat from any kind of jumping.</li> </ul>
2-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply heat packs before Passive Range Of Movement (PROM), This means moving the joints through its natural movements as far as is comfortable for your pet this can be repeated 2 to 3 times daily 10 minutes at a time if tolerated ice packs applied after physio for 5 minutes after PROM will be beneficial.</li> </ul>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ice therapy is not required if swelling has resolved.</li> <li>PROMS can be increased to 20 minutes 3 daily</li> </ul>
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If normal joint motion is present then heat therapy can be stopped. Continue with PROM.</li> </ul>
6-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is when your cats 6 week post operation radiographs will be done and we will check if the one(s) are healing correctly.</li> <li>If everything is healing correctly Colin may advise letting your cat to come around the house for the next few weeks</li> </ul>
8-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As long as your cat has been coping well with exercise around the house this will be the time you can start reintroducing them back into the great outdoors</li> </ul>