



Fracture with a Bandage Discharge Instructions

EXERCISE RESTRICTION:

Your pet will need to have restricted activity and be under confinement until radiographic healing occurs, usually 6-12 weeks post-surgery. This means that he or she should be confined to a small room or kennel with a good non-slip surface at all times. Dogs may be taken outside for elimination only. If the fracture occurred on a back leg, a sling support must be used on any slick surfaces or steps until radiographic healing.

In addition, confinement will reduce the amount of calories burned by your pet and you may need to decrease their diet by 25%.

BANDAGE CARE AND MONITORING:

Bandage complications can be very serious if not addressed soon enough. It is important to keep your pet from licking or chewing at the bandage. When not directly supervised, it will be necessary for your pet to wear an Elizabethan collar (e-collar).

Look at the top of the bandage several times a day to make sure it is not rubbing a sore. If the toes are visible, look at them to make sure that they are not swollen. Make sure to cover the bandage with a bag prior to going outside, then immediately remove the bag once inside again. If you notice an odor, if there are sores starting, if the toes are swollen, or if the bandage becomes wet or soiled, **please contact us immediately.**

The bandage will need to be changed weekly in most cases to make sure there are no sores developing and to check to make sure that the fracture does not feel unstable. Bandages will usually stay on for a total of 6-8 weeks but in some cases may be left in place longer.

FOLLOW UP:

Sutures and skin staples should be removed at 10-14 days post-surgery, please schedule your appointment with your Veterinarian.

Your pet will be sent home on an anti-inflammatory and antibiotic and possibly additional medication. It is important that they are given as directed until finished unless otherwise directed. If your pet experiences vomiting, diarrhea, is extremely lethargic or is unwilling to eat, please contact us or your Veterinarian immediately.

**If you have any questions, concerns, or problems please contact us at
(910) 512-8912 or e-mail: drstoll@ccvss.org**