

## GENERAL POST OP FRACTURE REPAIR NOTES - CATS

Your pet has had their fractured bone repaired using metal implants

The bone will develop a fibrous callus between 2-4 weeks, which will gradually harden to form solid bone. The bone should be functionally healed in approx 6 -8 weeks

All regular post op checks can be carried out by your own vet – usually a 3 day post op + the stitches out in 10-14 days. Any swelling or excess fluid coming from the wound, or discomfort or change in your cat's general condition should be examined quickly by your own vet first. Your cat will have a course of Antibiotics + anti inflammatory drugs – please ensure you complete the whole course + inform your vet if there are any problems

Mr Whiting would like to Re examine your cat usually in 4-6weeks post surgery - please ring the St Columb surgery for an appointment.

Exercise restrictions vary with types of fractures/repairs and personalities of the patient! Controlled exercise is generally helpful to bone healing, with cats this can be hard to achieve; we will advise whether cage rest, room rest or house rest is most appropriate. No running or jumping +outside free roaming must be avoided until we are all satisfied that stable bone healing is complete

Your cat should have easy access to a litter tray, food + water bowls + a large comfy bed

**External fixators** – if you are using metal mesh for kennel/confined area of any kind please ensure there is a solid cover (either cardboard/wood/plastic sheet) on the inside to ensure the metal fixator doesn't get caught up in it - this would be very dangerous for your cat.

### **Some stress busters for your cat –**

Put their favourite bed/blanket in kennel/confined area to snuggle into + feel super comfy

Keep the crate/confined area in a busy room – so they can see what's going on + don't feel too isolated it helps keeps them distracted + occupied watching all that's going on

Try them with a cat harness + lead + let them out of their kennel (under strict control – never let go of the lead for a moment as they will know + be off like a shot!!) to sit on your lap + have a fuss/cuddle or even a gentle stroll around the room/house (avoid stairs + jumping) and care with interaction with other pets as becomes very excited + try to play/gets tangled up. Once they learn the Harness/lead means they can come out they usually accept. When you are both confident with the harness + lead short walks around the garden will give both exercise + a welcome change of scenery.

Break up meal times from once/twice daily to 3-4 times daily + different food/treats (care with weight gain/stomach upsets) or even introduce new toys (possibly with treats in) to break up their time - as long as not too over exuberant at playing/ getting to food.

If home alone for long period of times then leave radio/TV on to distract

In short try to keep them calm/settled + give them lots of attention whilst their fracture heals

