

CONDYLAR FRACTURE DISCHARGE INSTRUCTIONS



Your pet has undergone surgery to repair a fractured elbow involving the joint and growth plate. These types of fractures, if left untreated, can result in long-term pain, poor function, and severe arthritis.

To stabilise the fracture, a screw has been placed across the break and a wire may have been used to counteract twisting forces. These implants are typically left in place permanently, although some pets may experience minor irritation from the hardware, which might require removal after healing.

Post-Operative Care Instructions

Rest and Activity:

Strict rest is essential for 8 weeks to ensure the best outcome.

- **Allowed:** Short leash walks for toilet breaks only.
- **Not allowed:** Running, jumping, stair climbing, rough play, long walks, or visits to the park. Your vet will let you know when it's safe to begin gentle walks and increase activity.

Physiotherapy:

We strongly recommend a consult with a qualified animal physiotherapist to help support mobility, joint health, and a smooth recovery. Please ask our reception team for a referral or contact details.

Specific Discharge Instructions

Sutures:

Internal (intradermal) sutures: These dissolve on their own and do not need to be removed.

Bandage Care:

Depending on your pet's case:

- A post-operative bandage was applied and should be removed in **7 days**, unless otherwise advised.
- A small bandage covering the IV catheter site can be removed once home.

Medications:

Please read all medication labels carefully and follow the instructions provided. If you're having difficulty administering any medication, contact us for advice.

Diet:

- Your pet can continue on their regular diet unless advised otherwise.
- In some cases, a **weight loss diet** may be recommended to support joint health and reduce stress on healing limbs.

Follow-Up Appointments

- **Bandage/Suture check:** In 7–14 days, as advised by your vet.
- **X-rays:** A follow-up radiograph is needed **8 weeks post-surgery** to assess healing. Please fast your pet from midnight the night before this appointment.

Make all follow-up appointments with reception at your earliest convenience.



When to Contact Us Immediately

Please call the clinic if you notice:

- Swelling, discharge, or redness at the surgical site
- Bandage slipping, becoming wet, or smelling unpleasant
- Changes in behaviour, appetite, or signs of pain
- Sudden limping or failure to use the leg

If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact us.
We're here to support your pet's recovery every step of the way!