



Procedure: Correction of medially luxating patella via trochlear block resection, tibial tubercle rotation, and soft tissue modifications

Re-Check Exam: Fluffy needs sutures removed in 10 days and Xrays need to be taken of the tibial tuberosity at 12 weeks to evaluate healing of the osteotomy site. This can be done with your normal veterinarian or here at the referral center.

Exercise: The importance of limiting exercise during the first 2 months cannot be over-emphasized. Exercise must be limited to leash walks only for the first 2 months. Stairs must be eliminated, or the dog carried up and down stairs, or the use of a ramp is needed. Playing with other dogs, jumping up, or any other source of rough play should not be permitted. The long term success of the surgery is dependant of following these restrictions. Leash walks around the block etc are encouraged, if controlled on a leash, as your pet is able. After 2 months post-op, gradual increase to normal off leash exercise is allowed.

Feeding: Your pet may eat his/her normal food. Obesity plays a major roll in clinical improvement, therefore, maintaining a normal body weight will help prevent re-luxation and slow the progression of arthritis. Due to the exercise restrictions, reducing total food volume by 25% is a good guide during the healing process.

Expectations: 85% of all dogs undergoing Patellar Luxation repair will have significant improvement and return toward normal function following repair. Re-luxation of the patella is a common complication. One study reported as high as 35% relaxation, but clinical and functional use of the leg was achieved in 90-95% of patients. Degenerative joint disease will progress despite surgical repair. Our goal is to slow the process and provide a functional, pain-reduced leg.

The following is a guide for the expected progress post surgery:

10 days post-op ... toe touching only, sutures removed

4 weeks post op ... 30% use of leg with pronounced limp

8 weeks post op ... 50-70% use of leg with moderate limp

12 weeks post op ... 70-90% use of leg with minimal limp

