

Discharge Sheet: TPLO/TTA Surgery

Name: 'Scooby Doo' Case Number: 0000001

Diagnosis: Cruciate ligament rupture & medial meniscal tear

Scooby presented with hindlimb lameness due to rupture of the cranial cruciate ligament in the (limb) stifle (knee). This has been treated with a TPLO/TTA procedure, which alters the orientation of the muscular forces around the proximal tibia to stabilise the joint. The cut tibia is stabilised with a plate and screws whilst the bone heals (typically this takes 6-10 weeks). It is very important that Scooby is rested appropriately during this time to avoid problems with bone healing.

Some dogs develop a soft fluidy swelling around the hock (the joint below the surgery site) a day or two after surgery. As long as this is soft, not hot, and Scooby is walking ok on the leg and is not bothered by the swelling this is of no concern and will resolve within a few days.

Exercise:

- First 4 weeks: please restrict Scooby to slow 5-minute walks on a lead, 2-3 times daily. From week 5 onwards: slow 10 minute walks on a lead, 2-3 times daily.
- Until advised otherwise, Scooby must only be allowed in the garden on a lead, for toilet purposes
- Please make sure Scooby is not allowed to play with other dogs, run around the house, go up/down stairs or jump on/off furniture during this time. Active dogs are best confined to a kennel or single room of the house.
- Scooby should bear weight on the affected limb within a few days of surgery; if Scooby is still hopping on the leg 5 days after surgery please call me
- You should notice a gradual but steady improvement in how Scooby uses the leg; if at any stage there is any deterioration in how Scooby uses the leg, or any concerns regarding the wound, please call me

Medication:

- Metacam (meloxicam): 70 Kg dose by mouth, with food, once daily for 10 days, or longer if necessary. If you notice vomiting/diarrhoea, stop & seek veterinary advice
- Rilexine (cefelexin 600mg): 2 tablets twice daily for 7 days

Re-examinations:

- Please arrange for your local vet to examine Scooby and remove the skin stitches from 10 days after surgery. Please ensure Scooby does not lick these in the meantime – if necessary you may need to use a 'Buster'/elizabethan collar
- Please arrange a re-examination at Anderson Moores in 6-8 weeks time. At this appointment we will need to sedate Scooby for x-rays so please do not feed Scooby on the morning of this appointment (water can be provided right up until the appointment time)

Unfortunately, stifle osteoarthritis (OA) is inevitable following cruciate injuries, although in most dogs this does not cause a significant problem. However, to minimise the long-term effects of OA you should aim to keep Scooby at a lean body weight.

If you have any concerns or questions at any stage please call/e.mail us

Andy Moores

RCVS Recognised Specialist in Orthopaedics
European Specialist in Small Animal Surgery

James Grierson

RCVS Recognised Specialist in Surgery
European Specialist in Small Animal Surgery

Andrea Pratesi

ECVS Surgery Resident