



Post-operative Discharge Instructions following Juvenile Pubic Symphodesis(JPS) Surgery

Juvenile Pubic Symphodesis (JPS) surgery refers to the surgery performed on the growth plate of the pubic bone of the pelvis. Surgery uses electrocautery to damage the area of growing bone (physis/growth plate) of the pubis causing it to fuse and stop growing, which in turn causes the conformation of the hip joints to change and improve. This fusion causes the cup of the hip joint to form a better cover over the top of the ball thigh bone (femur) and decrease the risk of developing hip dysplasia as the patient mature and grows. Several studies have demonstrated the benefit of this surgery in decreasing the incidence of hip dysplasia and osteoarthritis.

There is little recovery following the procedure apart from some rest for the first 2 weeks to allow the skin and surgical site to heal. There are minimal risks or complications associated with the surgery, and given the rapid recovery, is thought to be a good intervention in the management of early hip dysplasia.

Re-examination by your Regular Veterinarian

7 days and 14 days for routine wound examination.

At 6-9 months of age for hip examination, assessment and palpation.

Radiographs may be performed should your pet be sedated or anaesthetised for any reason to assess hip conformation.

Please don't hesitate to contact your veterinary clinic at any stage for examination if you have concerns.

Medications

A short course of anti-inflammatory should be all that is required at home.

Should there be any gastrointestinal signs (vomiting, diarrhoea), please stop the medication and contact your veterinary clinic.

Post-operative Care

Rest and short lead controlled walks in the backyard only for toileting purposes as required for 2 weeks, returning to normal activity thereafter.

Please monitor the wound daily for redness, swelling, opening or discharge. Please ensure you pet does not lick at the wound.

An Elizabethan collar may be required should your pet lick at the wound, which may damage the incision and open to infection and complication.

I would recommend a consultation for physiotherapy to optimise the long-term outcome, aid muscular hip stability and maintenance of a good range of motion of the hips.

Diet

I would recommend feeding a high quality puppy food, but fed in limited amounts to ensure a very lean body condition throughout growth. This slows the growth of the patient, allowing co-ordinated skeletal growth and a reduction in the incidence of developmental bone conditions, and hip and elbow dysplasias.