



## **Post Surgical Care for TTA Surgery**

For 12 weeks following surgery, exercise restriction is required. At 2 weeks post-op we will remove the staples. Physical rehabilitation will begin in clinic the day following surgery and should continue twice weekly for 6 weeks. At approximately 4 weeks post-op we will take a radiograph (x-ray) to assess bone healing. Then at 12 weeks post-op we will take another radiograph to assess healing. If adequate healing has occurred then we will release your pet to normal activity. However, we recommend that exercise be increased to normal over 1.5 months from this point.

### **Until your pet is released for normal activity: (8-12 weeks)**

1. Your pet can be inside, on carpeted surfaces, under your direct supervision.
2. They must be on a leash at all times when outside for airing and going to the bathroom.
3. When not under your direct supervision, they are to be confined in an airline kennel or small area such as a laundry room, small bedroom or office.

Playing with other animals is not allowed during the following 8-12 weeks. If there are other pets in your household, you will need to keep them separated.

Your pet's food intake may need to be reduced to help prevent weight gain. Most dogs will maintain their current weight if their food intake is cut by a third to a half. Their water intake should remain normal.

If at any time during your pet's recovery and healing they do anything that causes them to cry out or give a sharp yelp or cry, we need to be contacted to make sure they have not injured themselves.

If at any time during your pet's recovery and healing they have a set back or decrease in function, we need to be contacted to make sure they have not injured themselves.

Some swelling and bruising is normal following surgery. See the warm compress instructions on the general surgery discharge.

The first two weeks following surgery you will need to monitor your pets' incision to insure they are not licking or chewing. If you notice that your pet has started licking, you will need to contact BVS so that we can take steps to prevent them from doing so.

**If you are concerned at any point about your pets' progress or recovery, please contact us.**

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