



Lone Star Veterinary Surgical Services

Surgical Solutions for Your Loved Pets

Surgical Release Form for Digit Amputation

Owner: _____ Patient: _____ Date: _____

Referring Hospital: _____ Veterinarian: _____

Surgery to be performed: _____

I authorize Lone Star Veterinary Surgical Services (LSVSS) to perform surgery on my pet. I have discussed the aforementioned surgery and the importance of pre-surgical blood testing with the referring veterinarian. I understand that there are risks and hazards involved with the recommended surgical procedure, including anesthetic risk. I realized that no guaranty or warranty can ethically or professionally be made regarding the results or cure.

Your pet needs to have a digit amputated from the forelimb or hindlimb due to irreparable damage, severe fracture injury, tumor, or chronic infection. The primary weight-bearing digits are the third and fourth digits. Typically the level of amputation in the digit is determined by the site affected and location within the limb. Bandages are sometimes used in digit amputations. Your pet will very quickly adapt to their new center of gravity and ambulate very well. Most patients adapt within a week, although some require some coaxing and physical therapy and can take up to four weeks to walk well without support. Lameness typically results if more than two digits or the third or fourth digit is removed. Low-grade persistent lameness (pain or uncomfot) after amputation of the third or fourth digit may occur. Digit amputation performed due to tumor or mass removal does not guarantee complete removal of the cause. Often times, spread of the original cause has occurred and should be further investigated by evaluating other areas of the body and the closest lymph nodes for detection of cancer cells.

My pet is having surgery today on the Right / Left Front / Rear leg, digit I, II, III, IV, or V (please circle correct leg and digit)

Procedure: Digit Amputation Surgical Risks:

1. Infection (rare)
2. Bleeding from incision (especially if overactive)
3. Suture line dehiscence requiring additional surgery to close the wound.
Keeping an Elizabethan collar on your pet if they are prone to chewing at sutures is advisable for ten days until the sutures are removed in most cases.
4. When the underlying problem is a cancer in the bone or soft tissue, recurrence of the cancer can still occur within weeks, months or even years depending on the type of cancer. Post-surgical chemotherapy and/or radiation therapy can sometimes significantly increase the life expectancy.

Strict adherence to post-surgical care and medicating of your pet will minimize these potential complications and serious problems are very uncommon in most cases.

Date

Pet Owner/Agent Signature

Phone I Can Be Reached at Today