



Lone Star Veterinary Surgical Service

Surgical Solutions for Your Loved Pet

# Postoperative Care

## Fracture Repair with External Fixation Device

Owner: \_\_\_\_\_ Patient: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Referring Hospital: \_\_\_\_\_ Veterinarian: \_\_\_\_\_

Surgery performed: \_\_\_\_\_

1. After surgery your pet must be **kept confined in a small area** (airline flight kennel or a small room with no ledges) for **6 - 8 weeks after surgery**.
2. Use a Q-tip dipped in hydrogen peroxide to clean the pins near skin 2 – 3 times a day. Pin tracts need to be kept clean and free of debris. During the first 2-4 weeks apply BNP ointment to pin tract three times a day.
3. Return to your doctor if a yellow/ green or other discharge is noted from the pin tracts this could be a sign of infection.
4. **Return to your doctor for suture removal in 10-14 days**
5. **Return to your doctor every two weeks to have the ESF device tightened**
6. **Return to your doctor for post-op radiographs 4 weeks and 8 weeks after surgery.**
7. Use All medications as directed
8. If the 4-week x-rays show normal healing, then your pet may be confined to one room in the house when you are away.
9. If the 8-week x-rays show complete healing, then your pet may return to normal activity.
10. **In order to remove the ESF device, your pet will need to be sedated once the fracture has healed. Please do not feed your pet prior to his 4 and 8 week recheck appointments in case sedation is needed.**

If your pet is experiencing any of the following symptoms you should contact your family veterinarian or go to the nearest emergency hospital immediately: Difficulty breathing, lethargy, vomiting, bloody diarrhea, inability to urinate, a fever of > 103F, or not eating or drinking for more than 24 hours

\_\_\_\_\_  
Client Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Discharging Technician Signature