



## **Take Home Instructions** **Radius Ulna Fracture**

Dogs can fracture their radius and ulna with what seems like very little trauma especially in small breeds. Dogs tend to have limited blood supply in their distal radius where most of these fractures occur, which means rigid fixation is important to allow the radius to heal.

Your pet has had the fracture repaired with strong metal implants to hold the fracture in place during healing. In most cases these implants do not need to be removed.

### **Instructions:**

1. Exercise restriction is very important while the fracture heals. This means no running, jumping or playing. Try to avoid stairs. Your pet may be leash walked to the bathroom and then should return to the house. Your pet may be out with you when supervised but should be confined (crate) when unsupervised. This should be enforced throughout the healing process which is about 8 weeks and is confirmed with x-rays.
2. Monitor the incision for swelling, redness, oozing or pain which can be a sign of infection. We should be notified immediately should this occur.
3. Your pet will need the sutures removed in 10-14 days. This can be done here or at your veterinarian. If you wish to have it done here please call to schedule a recheck.
4. Please call to schedule a recheck appointment for 3 weeks so that we may take x-rays to evaluate the healing process. If there are any problems before then, we should see your pet earlier.
5. Your pet should begin to use its leg over the next 2 weeks. If this does not occur or it become acutely painful please notify us.
6. Your pet will be sent home with a bandage. This will need to be removed in 10-14 days. We would be happy to do this for you or you may go to your referring veterinarian for this. If you choose to come here, please call to schedule this appointment.
7. Please see the Bandage Instruction Sheet for bandage home care. Please call any time if you have any questions.
8. Please call us if you have any questions or concerns. We are available 24 hours (1-800-341-6111).

Please call with any questions or concerns you may have.