



Take Home Instructions

Ventral Slot

Your pet had a myelogram. This is a contrast study of the spinal cord. We inject a contrast material into the spinal canal to determine where the spinal cord compression located. In this case the disk rupture was found at

Once we diagnosed the location of the problem your pet had a procedure called a ventral slot. We approach the ventral aspect of the cervical vertebral bodies and use an air driven burr to remove a small portion of the vertebrae over the disc space. Once we reach the spinal canal we are able to remove the disc material. As you would expect, the inflammation that the disk rupture has caused will take time to be resolved.

Instructions:

1. Monitor the incision for swelling, oozing, redness or pain. Should this occur please notify us immediately.
2. Exercise restriction is important for the next 3 weeks. Do not allow your pet to run, jump, play etc.. You should leash walk them outside on a loose leash placed around the neck and under one front leg. This will help keep pressure from the incision area. You should confine your pet to a crate when unsupervised but they can be out with you when supervised.
3. Because of the location of the incision, it would be good to use a harness instead of a collar during the healing period of 3 to 4 weeks.
4. We need to recheck your pet in 3-4 weeks to check on his/her progress.
5. Sutures/staples can be removed in 10-14 days, either here or at your veterinarian's.
6. Please notify us if you have any questions or concerns.