

Postoperative care after Perineal Hernia Repair

1. Exercise Restrictions

Leash walk to urinate and defecate for 3 weeks, try and avoid unrestricted activity outside, try to avoid playing with other dogs/pets inside the house.

2. Some swelling of the wound is normal, as is some bruising which can be very dark red. Often as healing progresses, the swelling can move outward and the bruising can spread out. You should become concerned that your pet may have an infection IF:

A: The wound becomes very swollen or discharges a yellow or green material.

B: Your dog becomes very depressed or lethargic

Sometimes the wound will ooze some blood during the first 24-48 hours at home. You should not be alarmed at this; you can hold a cotton sponge over it for 5-10 minutes to stop the bleeding.

3. What is a normal postoperative course?

Your pet should want to drink, and may eat with a little coaxing. He should be urinating normally, it may take 2-3 days for a bowel movement and when this occurs, there may be straining for the first few times. For about 2 weeks you pet may be temporarily incontinent as a result of stretching the muscles during the repair. This should improve, permanent incontinence is rare after this surgery, but is possible. An occasional complication is rectal prolapse, where the rectum will poosh out after defecation, if it persists and will not go back in, please call for advice as soon as possible.

4. Dietary recommendations: There are no special recommendations regarding diet.