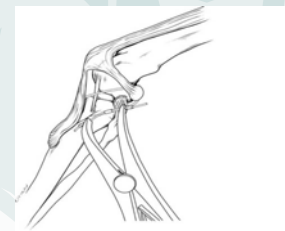




Cruciate Ligament Repair

The patella of the knee is supported by two pairs of ligaments; the collateral ligaments prevent the patella to slide on the exterior or interior side of the knee, and the cruciates which prevent the knee to move forward and backward. The integrity of these ligaments is essential to the stability of the knee. A tear or partial tear of these ligaments require orthopedic surgery. Different techniques may be used to correct the problem, however, some are more invasive than others.

At Pets and Vets as Partners, we are using the Securos technique for cruciate stabilization. The Securos technique involves a special suture (similar to a fish line) in order to support different body weights. The surgery consists of opening the joint and removing any fragments of the torn ligament. When the articulation is cleaned closed, the special suture is passed below the fibular head and passed through a hole drilled in the head of the tibia to come back above as a figure eight. The special feature of this technique are the clamps and the clamp cruncher. Clamps are passed in the thread, the tension is adjusted through a special device, then the clamp cruncher secures the tension permanently. This technique allows the appropriate tension immediately to provide a better functioning knee. Moreover, if there is any doubt of suture displacement after surgery, x-rays will permit the visualization of the clamp and its placement..



As for any human orthopedic surgery, physical rehabilitation is crucial to achieve a full recovery of the joint. Rehabilitation should start within 24 hours after the surgery. PetMedSpa and Rehabilitation Center is the only facility in Indiana offering rehabilitation with swimming pool, underwater treadmill and electro-stimulation under a veterinarian certified-eligible in canine rehabilitation. Please visit the web site: petmedspaandrehab.com

Follow-up care includes a combo of glucosamine, (a supplement to allow a better quality of synovial fluid), chondroitin, (helping the integrity of the bones), and sometimes a supplement of creatinine (to increase the muscle mass if needed). A weight management program might be implemented. Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory and pain killers should be used rather than steroids for pain management.