

St Bernards Buzz

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 5

MAY 2022



"Our fur Baby was running around, having the best time and then all of sudden we heard a yelp and they were limping on one of their back-legs" Sound familiar? There is a chance that your furry friend has ruptured their cruciate.

Veterinary Orthopaedics

The cruciate is one of two ligaments in the knee that help stabilise the joint. When partially torn or fully ruptured, it causes instability and pain. A ruptured cruciate is diagnosed through a physical exam and xrays. Surgery is generally required to fix a ruptured cruciate.

Orthopaedic veterinary issues include any diseases, conditions or injuries affecting the skeletal structures of the pet's body, including their bones, tendon, ligaments, cartilage, joints and more. If your cat or dog has an orthopaedic health issue, we can help you! Our Veterinary team has a wealth of experience and is able to perform a wide variety of complex surgeries such as:

- Cruciate ligament repairs
- Patella (kneecap) luxation repairs
- Plating or pinning broken bones
- Reducing and repairing dislocated hips
- Limb, tail or digit amputations

These kinds of health issues are relatively common in dogs of all shapes and sizes. Certain breeds are also be predisposed to particular orthopaedic health problems and larger dogs tend to develop issues with their bones and joints as they get older.

And it's not just dogs! Be mindful cats can get orthopaedic issues too! It's not uncommon for us to fix a cat's luxating patella and to help them become mobile again by stabilising their kneecap.

Patient of the Month - Ruby



The very same scenario happened to the beautiful Ruby last year, who became lame on her left hind-leg after periods of running. When her lameness did not improve with pain-relief and cage rest, a repeat physical exam and x-rays confirmed that Ruby ruptured her left cruciate. Dr. Warren performed Tibial Tuberosity Advancement surgery (which can be seen in the x-ray photo below), and with appropriate postoperative rest, restricted activity and pain-relief, Ruby is now feeling her best self and is almost ready to resume her normal activity.

Orthopaedic issues are never fun-KNEE. Please give our lovely team a call if you see that your pet is lame, limping or have any other concerns.

Our New Instagram Page!

@stbernardsvet

Follow us @stbernardsvet, like a photo and tag us in an Instagram story before the end of June, and you will go into the draw to win a prize (treats) for your pet!



Ruby's Tibial Tuberosity Advancement



Because pets are family too!