



◦ Preparing for total hip replacement for veterinarians ◦

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Pre-operative check-list

- Consultation with VSOS pre-operatively
- Blood work within 4 weeks of surgery
- A bath with medicated or regular shampoo 1-2 days prior to surgery - ensure there is no dermatitis
- Pre-operative radiographs emailed to info@vsos.com.au (see below)
- Operating room thoroughly cleaned and "free of traffic" throughout the surgical procedure
- Owners home prepared for patient arrival: an area of confinement where the pet can have good traction flooring (eg: rugs, runners, rubber mats) and not slip over is important. The pet can have bedding, food, water and the ability to move around the space. A small room or large crate is appropriate. The pet should be confined for 6 weeks.

Pre-operative radiographs

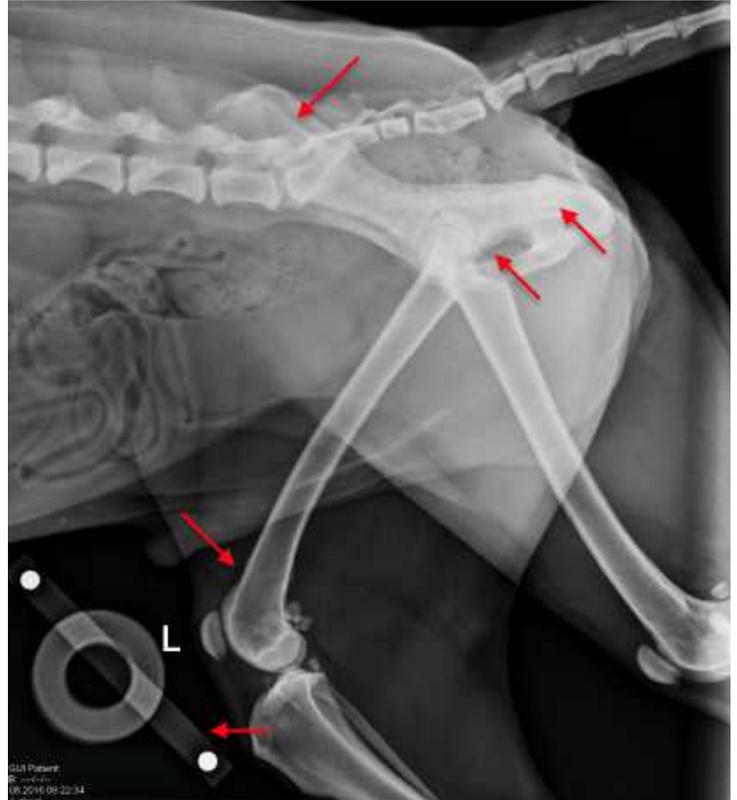
Four standard views are preferred:

1. Lateral pelvis,
2. VD pelvis
3. Open leg lateral femur (including pelvis)
4. AP femur

Preferably these are performed under sedation. Remember to place a magnification marker in each view (2.5cm or 10cm marker). See following for positioning guidelines.

Lateral Pelvis

1. Obturator foramen superimposed
2. Tuber ischii superimposed
3. Wings of ilium superimposed
4. Entire pelvis and lumbar spine in view
5. AFFECTED leg down and pulled forward away from other leg
6. Stifle in view
7. Magnification marker at height of affected femur



Ventrodorsal Pelvis

1. Obturator foramen symmetrical
2. Femurs straight
3. Patellas centers on stifle
4. Magnification marker at height of hip





Veterinary Specialists of Sydney

Phone: (02) 8376 8767 (VSOS) | Fax: (02) 8376 8766

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Open leg lateral

1. Hip joint and acetabulum in view
2. Entire femur in view
3. Femoral condyles superimposed
4. Magnification marker at height of femoral shaft



AP femur

1. Hip joint and acetabulum in view
2. Entire femur in view
3. Patella centered, fabella bisected by femur
4. Magnification marker at height of femoral shaft





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◦ Post-operative summary ◦

- In hospital: the pet should be kept calm during the hospitalization/recovery period. If they become agitated, consider sedation with dexmedetomidine CRI of 1ug/kg/hr

- At home, the pet should be confined for 6 weeks. They may go outside to eliminate 3-4 times per day. Thereafter they should continue confinement.

- Medications including antibiotics should be given as prescribed.

- After 6 weeks of activity restriction, recheck radiographs are performed. At that time, they are free from confinement and begin a leash walking program: 0.5km x 1 week, 1km x 1 week, 1.5km x 1 week then 2 km x 1 week. After 10 weeks they are allowed to return to normal activity.