

TheCuttingEdge

The bimonthly scoop from ProVetSurg

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ProVetSurg – your local visiting advanced surgical service

For a full procedure list please visit

www.provetsurg.co.uk

- Cruciate repair
- Patella stabilisation
- Fracture repair and trauma surgery
- Arthroscopy
- BOAS surgery
- TECA BO
- Complex mass resection

Radiograph Reporting

Did you know we offer a free radiograph reporting service to practices to enable the primary care vet to offer prompt diagnoses and case advise to their clients. Simply submit your radiographs and a referral form through our website www.provetsurg.co.uk and we aim to email a report back to you within 24 hours. If your case is an urgent or trauma case please also email info@provetsurg.co.uk for a more rapid response.



Self contained surgical team

With the addition of Bev Morgan RVN to our clinical team we are able to offer practices a completely self contained surgical team for those urgent or elective cases where the nursing rota won't stretch to one more surgery. Bev can accompany us as our anaesthetic nurse, working within our familiar team of surgeons to prepare the theatre and the prep area for surgery, monitor the patient anaesthetic and recover them post operatively, providing a seamless handover to your own nursing team after surgery and

helping the surgeon to clear up, leaving theatre as tidy as when we arrived! If this service is of interest to you, please request Bev to join the surgeon for your case when you book your surgical slot. Bev will also join our surgeons as a scrubbed assistant for certain procedures such as arthroscopy and complex fracture repairs.



Diagnostic musculoskeletal ultrasound

Our surgeon Duncan is also an advanced practitioner in diagnostic imaging and this means we can offer musculoskeletal ultrasound to our patients. This is particularly useful in cases where we recommend further imaging of the biceps tendon or achilles tendon and can help direct treatment as conservative or surgical.

Helping other surgeons progress

Nicci has been hard at work producing a series of lectures for Veterinary Instrumentation - keep an eye open for the webinars on.....



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Patella luxation

Patella luxation is a condition that we encounter frequently in our referral population. Diagnosis can usually be made on the basis of clinical examination and history with patients most usually exhibiting a characteristic “skipping” gait, often seen at trot.

The Singleton grading system allows simple description of patella luxation;

- Grade I - can be manually luxated but immediately reduces spontaneously.
- Grade II - can spontaneously luxate and reduce
- Grade III - predominantly luxated but can be reduced manually
- Grade IV - Permanently luxated and cannot be reduced manually

Patients with grade I patella luxation are rarely surgical candidates, but those with grade II patella

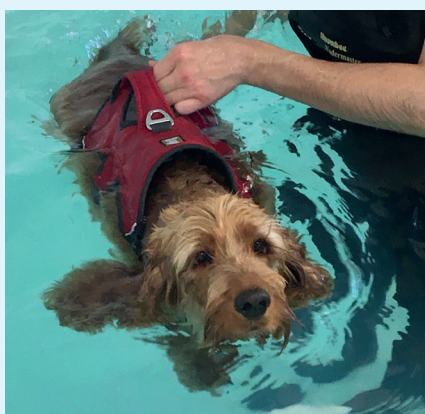
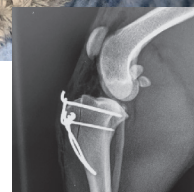
luxation that exhibit clinical signs of skipping or lameness are candidates for surgical stabilisation.

Depending on the grade of luxation, we may request further imaging prior to surgery. The majority of cases are grade II luxations that can be stabilised with a tibial tuberosity transposition +/- sulcoplasty, and this surgery can be planned from radiographs.

In cases of grade III or IV patella luxation patients may have femoral angular limb deformities that require correction (with a distal femoral osteotomy), and the most accurate way to plan this surgery is with a CT scan. Distal femoral osteotomy usually involves removing a carefully calculated wedge of bone on the lateral aspect of the distal femur. Sometimes we also have to correct a rotational deformity before placing a plate and screws to stabilise the osteotomy. Some patients also require a tibial tuberosity transposition and sulcoplasty.



Above and Right: One of our smallest patients recovering from a tibial tuberosity transposition and sulcoplasty



Patient Rehabilitation

Here at ProVetSurg we take our surgery very seriously, but know that optimal surgical outcomes don't stop when the last suture is placed! We work closely with an ACPAT registered physiotherapist for cases that require a little more help post-operatively. However, we know that not all cases are amenable to physiotherapy either due to temperament or for financial reasons. Recently, our

physiotherapy advisor, Hannah, has produced some fantastic videos for clients to follow at home so that all of our patients can benefit from that extra bit of support post-operatively. Clients can access these videos, along with an array of procedure - specific post operative care sheets, on our website www.provetsurg.co.uk.

Meet the team



Dr Nicci Meadows – Surgeon

BVetMed CertAVP GSAS MRCVS
Nicci is an experienced surgeon and has been providing a peripatetic surgical service since 2015 and is as happy performing elective cruciate surgery as she is repairing complex fractures.



Dr Heidi Burkinshaw – Surgeon

BSc(Hons) BVetMed PgC(SAS) MRCVS
Heidi is an excellent orthopaedic surgeon, but is also a very experienced soft tissue surgeon and is keen on ear surgery and complex mass resection.



Dr Duncan Greeff – Surgeon

BVetMed CertAVP GSAS PGCert (VPS) CertAVP VDI MRCVS
Duncan has a vast level of experience in both orthopaedic and soft tissue surgery, and has additional skills in diagnostic musculoskeletal ultrasound which is very useful in cases of tendon disease. Duncan regularly performs elbow and shoulder arthroscopy.



Dr Chris Nikolaou – Surgeon

DVM CertAVP GSAS MRCVS
The team of surgeons is also expanding and we are lucky to have Chris, another RCVS Recognised Advanced Practitioner joining us from October. You may see him out visiting practices with us in the coming weeks to meet practice teams and assist with surgeries.



Bev Morgan – Surgical Nurse

RVN
Bev joins our team as a very experienced nurse, having graduated from the Royal Veterinary College in 2010. She is a vital part of the clinical team, providing anaesthetic and scrubbed assistant support to the surgeons. Bev is also involved in organising case bookings on a day to day basis.



Hannah Stacey – Physiotherapy adviser

PG Dip Veterinary Physiotherapy, BSc (Hons)
Physiotherapy, MCSP, ACPAT Cat A Member
Hannah is on hand to help us with cases that are particularly tricky to rehabilitate or those patients that need extra support post operative. She works together with our surgeons to ensure that pets receive a holistic approach to their recovery.