



## Surgical Release Form for Jaw Fracture Repair

Owner: \_\_\_\_\_ Patient: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Referring Hospital: \_\_\_\_\_ Veterinarian: \_\_\_\_\_

Surgery to be performed: \_\_\_\_\_

I have discussed the aforementioned surgery and the importance of pre-surgical blood testing with the referring veterinarian. I understand that there are risks and hazards involved with the recommended surgical procedure, including anesthetic risk. I realized that no guaranty or warranty can ethically or professionally be made regarding the results or cure.

I authorize the surgeons and/or associates (Drs. Harper, Franklin, Lew and McFadden) of Texas Specialty Veterinary Services, PLLC to perform surgery on my pet. I am also aware that Dr. Harper is board certified in large animal surgery only but have retrained in small animal surgery as well, therefore, offers their services to small animal clients and their animals. I have also been made aware that Dr. Franklin is small animal surgery residency trained, but has not become board certified at this time. At this time Dr. Franklin's title is Practice Limited to Surgery. I understand that there are other board-certified surgeons in small animal available in the area. Drs. Lew and McFadden are board certified small animal surgeons.

Your pet has been diagnosed with a fractured jaw that needs surgical repair. Orthopedic surgery is a combination of both art and science and the orthopedic surgeon will evaluate your pet's radiographs and determine the best method of repair given your pet's age and the type of fracture or fractures. The surgeon may utilize one or a combination of pins, wires, screws, bone plates, or external fixator repair. The goal of any orthopedic surgery is fast return to function of the jaw. Many times the method of repair can only be properly determined during surgery as fissures (small cracks in the bone) and temporomandibular joint fractures sometimes do not show up well on a radiographs unless special views (open mouth) are taken under anesthesia. Often, due to the large number of small bones and overlying skull bones, radiographs will need to be examined by a veterinary radiology specialist necessitating two anesthetics, one for the radiographs and one for the surgery. Other times, in open fractures, bite wounds, or gunshot wounds that are contaminated, plates and screws can not be used as any infection would be difficult to correct. In addition, some cases will require post-operative wiring of the jaw with liquid feeding to protect the implants. If teeth are involved in the fracture, they may need to be removed now or at a future time to prevent abscessation. In most cases, there

will be no complications and your pet's bone will heal fully in 8-12 weeks. Unfortunately, in some cases, complications can arise. After fully discussing the planned surgical procedure and associated risks with your doctor or the surgeon, please sign the consent for surgery below:

The undersigned owner or authorized agent of admitted patient \_\_\_\_\_ hereby authorizes the admitting veterinarian (and his/her designated associates or assistants) to administer such treatment as is necessary to perform the below-mentioned procedure. The nature of the procedure(s) has been explained to me and no guarantee has been made as to results or cure. I understand that there may be risk involved in these procedures. I consent to the administration of such anesthetics or tranquilizers as are necessary.

Anesthetic Risks: (Although every effort is made to make anesthesia as safe as possible including vital sign monitoring and use of the most up to date anesthetic agents and equipment, understand that anesthesia has inherent risks). The incidence of complications from anesthesia is extremely low and we do not anticipate any in your pet but on rare occasions the following can occur:

1. Allergic reaction to the anesthetic agents
2. Heart rhythm abnormalities
3. Untoward reactions to the gas including drops in blood pressure or respiratory difficulties
4. Just like in humans, on very rare occasions, general anesthesia can result in death.

I consent to the following surgical procedure(s): Jaw Fracture Repair

Surgical Risks Include:

1. Infection (less than 3% in closed fractures) which may require additional testing and medication at an additional cost.
2. Blood clots that can lodge in major organs causing stroke or rarely death.
3. Delayed healing of the bone (every patient has a different ability to repair damaged bone that is not under the control of the surgeon)
4. Non-union (although quite rare, a non-union is where the bone does not heal despite our best attempts and will require a second surgery with bone grafting at additional cost to repair)
5. Loose or broken implants (these may cause your pet discomfort and need to be removed/replaced at additional cost)
6. Malunion causing the lower jaw to deviate to one side or arthritis in the TM joint if involved in the fracture
7. Damage to the blood supply to the fractured bone resulting in tissue death and necrosis (rare)

Strict adherence to post-surgical care and medicating of your pet will minimize these potential complications and serious problems are very uncommon in most cases.

Texas Specialty Veterinary Services (TSVS) occasionally features patients on its Facebook page, YouTube channel, other social media sites, and in publications (print or online). With your permission, we may share your pet's picture, video or story. We may mention your pet by name, but never the owner's name. TSVS would be grateful that you'll be helping other pets by educating pet owners, veterinary technicians and veterinarians.

Please initial to allow TSVS to mention your pet \_\_\_\_\_

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**Date**

**Pet Owner/Agent Signature**

**Phone I Can Be Reached At Today**

*Telephone (800) 707-0167/(210) 706-0167*

*Email: [tsvsinfo@tsvs.net](mailto:tsvsinfo@tsvs.net)*