

## **Informed Consent**

### **Luxation of the Superficial Digital Flexor Tendon (SDF) Repair**

Your pet has been diagnosed with a luxation of the superficial digital flexor (SDF) tendon. The SDF luxates when the fascia (tissue) on one side of it (usually the medial fascia) tears, which causes the tendon to slip to the opposite side (usually it luxates laterally). You have elected surgical repair of this SDF luxation. The goal of surgery is to suture the torn fascia on the opposite side of the luxation to re-secure it. Although the prognosis is excellent with surgery, we need to make you aware of a few of the common complications that could arise after this surgery. If you have any questions or concerns, please let us know.

The risks of complications after SDF luxation repair is low, about 5% of cases. Here are some potential risks:

Failure of repair-the suture could pull from the fascia (tissue) or could break during recovery. If this happens, reluxation is likely and revision surgery is recommended.

Bandage sores or dermatitis-a splint and/or bandage is placed in many cases after repair and good bandage care is required. Weekly (or as needed) bandage changes are required to monitor the skin under the cast.

Infection- this is a risk with any surgery and usually treatable with oral antibiotic therapy

Others could include persistent lameness or reduced athletic function even if repair is successful.