

Informed Consent

Tibial Tuberosity Transposition (TTA)

Your dog has been diagnosed presumptively with a tear in one of the major stabilizers of the knee joint, the cranial cruciate ligament (CrCL or ACL, ACL tear, etc). You have elected a tibial tuberosity advancement (TTA) to treat this disease. The prognosis is excellent with surgery. However, we need to make you aware of a few of the common complications that could arise after TTA surgery. If you have any questions or concerns, please let us know.

The risks of complications after TTA is low, about 5-10% of cases. Here are some potential risks:

Infection- this is a risk with any surgery and is usually treatable with oral antibiotic therapy and in some cases may require removal of the TTA plate

Patella luxation- this may require revision surgery if it occurs

Arthritis/osteoarthritis (OA)/degenerative joint disease (DJD)- despite our goal of stabilizing the stifle (knee), there was damage to the joint as soon as the ligament began to tear. Arthritis will progress, despite therapy, and although the surgery will allow your pet to compensate for this much better than without surgery, its possible the arthritis may progress enough over time to affect your pet. Medical therapies can be discussed at that time.

Meniscal tear- this is treated at surgery in most cases, but if it isn't or if it is treated ineffectively, additional therapy may be needed

Implant loosening or failure- screw loosening or breakage may or may not need additional therapy. A broken plate will usually require additional therapy

Bone fracture- we can see fractures of the tibia and fractures of a part of the tibia (the tibial crest). They may or may not need additional therapy

Osteomyelitis (bone infection)- this is very serious but rare. Infection of the implants can be a challenging problem to resolve, as some of the hardware is buried deep in the bone.

There are rare reports of plate-associated cancers