



## **FEMORAL HEAD OSTECTOMY**

### **MEDICAL DISCLOSURE FOR FEMORAL HEAD OSTECTOMY**

This pet had an injury that either caused damage to the pelvis or to the head of the femur (“ball “of the “ball and socket” of the hip joint) that resulted in the need for the removal of the head of the femur. Surgical removal of the femur head was done to create a pain free pseudo-joint and prevent pain from long term arthritis. Many pets will function well without the “ball and socket” joint as the muscles of the leg will compensate. The animal spent time in foster undergoing post-operative rehabilitation therapy, but ongoing rehabilitation therapy is of benefit. Maintaining a lean body weight and regular consistent exercise is very helpful. There is often a mechanical lameness due to limb shortening but the expectation is good limb function and alleviation of arthritic pain. While most pets do well after this procedure, a few things must be taken into consideration. These pets will not be good for high impact/intensity sports such as flyball, agility, Frisbee etc. It will be important to keep them at a lean body weight as to not put any additional strain on the affected leg. Regular exercise such as walking/jogging/swimming will be good to keep muscles strong and well developed. All follow-up care will need to be done at the owner’s veterinarian and at the owner’s expense.