



Robert Murray

B. Sc (Hons) Biomed, DVM (Hons), MRCVS

Complex Small Animal Surgery  
Orthopaedic and Soft Tissue

- Complex Surgery
- Cruciate Disease
- Patellar Luxation
- Fracture Repair
- BOAS / TECA-LBO

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### Perineal Urethrostomy Discharge Sheet

#### Procedure Summary

A perineal urethrostomy has been performed to create a new, wider opening for urination. This procedure is typically required in male cats with recurrent or persistent urethral obstruction, often caused by urinary stones or severe narrowing of the urethra.

The surgery involves removal of the narrow penile urethra and formation of a new opening in the wider pelvic urethra. This effectively creates a shorter, wider urinary passage to allow urine to pass more freely and reduce the risk of life-threatening obstruction.

In some cases, additional procedures such as bladder surgery to remove stones may also have been performed. If your cat was entire, castration is typically performed at the same time.

This surgery significantly reduces the risk of future obstruction but does not cure underlying urinary tract disease. Ongoing dietary and medical management may still be required.

Mild bleeding, swelling, and blood-tinged urine are expected for several days following surgery.

#### Complications

Common and expected complications include mild bleeding from the surgical site, blood in the urine, mild swelling and local irritation, and increased frequency of urination during the early post-operative period.

Occasional complications include urinary tract infection, wound irritation or self-trauma, and delayed healing.

Less common complications include significant haemorrhage requiring veterinary attention, wound breakdown or infection, and persistent lower urinary tract signs.



# MAINLIACHT SURGICAL DISCHARGE

## Post-operative guidance



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Rare but serious complications include stricture formation of the new urinary opening which may require revision surgery, ascending urinary tract infection due to the shorter and wider urethra, chronic lower urinary tract disease, and kidney dysfunction where pre-existing disease is present.

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### Operation Site Care

Areas of fur have been clipped for surgery and catheter placement.

The surgical site is delicate during healing. An Elizabethan collar must be worn at all times for a minimum of fourteen days to prevent licking or trauma.

A non-clumping, dust-free litter must be used until healing is complete. Suitable options include paper-based litter or shredded newspaper. Clay and clumping litters must be avoided.

Sutures are dissolvable and do not require removal. Mild swelling, bruising, or scabbing is expected. A small amount of bleeding or discharge may be seen in the early post-operative period.

The area should be kept clean and dry. Do not bathe or clean the wound unless advised.

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### Medications

Medication	How to Give	Duration	Purpose
NSAID	Once daily	As prescribed	Pain relief and anti-inflammatory
Antibiotic	Twice daily	As prescribed	Infection prevention
Additional pain relief	As prescribed	Short course	Post-operative comfort
Urinary support supplements	As advised	Ongoing	Bladder support
Urethral relaxants (if prescribed)	As directed	Short course	Reduce urethral spasm
Stress-reducing support (if advised)	As directed	Ongoing	Reduce recurrence risk

All medications should be given exactly as prescribed. Anti-inflammatory medications should be given with food and may occasionally cause vomiting or diarrhoea. If this occurs, contact the practice for advice. Do not administer human medications.

### Home Care Instructions

#### Activity and Exercise

Strict rest is required for at least two weeks. Your cat should be kept indoors and confined to a small, quiet area where possible. Running, jumping, and climbing must be prevented.



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### Feeding and Hydration

A urinary-specific diet is strongly recommended. Wet food is preferred to increase water intake and help dilute the urine. Encourage drinking by providing fresh water at all times. Some cats prefer running water sources such as fountains.

Long-term dietary management may be adjusted depending on analysis of any stones removed.

### Monitoring at Home

Close monitoring of urination is essential. Frequent, small urinations and mild blood staining are expected initially.

Your cat should be able to pass urine freely. Any signs of straining, discomfort, or reduced urine output should be treated as urgent.

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### When to Contact the Practice Immediately

- Straining to urinate with little or no urine produced
- Continuous or excessive bleeding
- Significant swelling or wound breakdown
- Lethargy, reduced appetite, vomiting, or collapse
- Any concern regarding urination

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### Follow-Up and Prognosis

A post-operative check is typically recommended within three days, followed by a further examination at ten to fourteen days to assess healing.

The long-term prognosis following perineal urethrostomy is generally good once healing is complete. Most cats experience a significant reduction in the risk of obstruction and improved ability to urinate.

Ongoing management of underlying urinary tract disease is often required. There is an increased lifetime risk of urinary tract infection due to the wider and shorter urethra.



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If you have any concerns at any stage, please contact the practice for advice.

Kind regards

*Robert Murray*

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