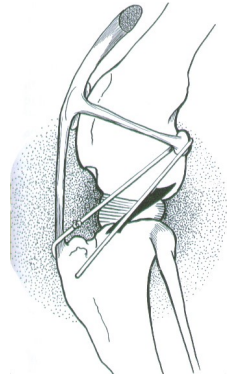


Update

Cranial Cruciate Ligament Repairs

Cranial cruciate ligament ruptures are the most common orthopedic injuries treated by **ProFormance Canine**. When there are multiple procedures to repair a problem, that means none of them work consistently. At a recent ACVS Symposium, there was an entire day of lectures focused on cranial cruciate disease. We have modified our treatment recommendations based upon new studies and our experience with tens of thousands of patients.

LATERAL SUTURE The standard of care for cruciate surgery has been the lateral fabellar suture technique. At **ProFormance Canine** we can make patients comfortable with this technique, but we can not consistently get the patient back to performance function. This procedure is less time consuming and less expensive to perform, so we often use this procedure if finances are an issue. The lateral suture can be used on **any** size dog or cat.



TPLO We have performed the TPLO (Tibial Plateau Leveling Osteotomy) procedure at **ProFormance Canine** since 1997. The TPLO procedure allows us to consistently return patients to pre-injury performance levels. With our extensive experience treating cruciate ligament injuries, we have not experienced the rate of complications reported by other hospitals. The preliminary results of an on-going study at the University of Illinois has found a significantly better outcome between the TPLO and lateral suture in dogs with adjusted lean body weights over 80 pounds. Arthritis will be slowed, but does continue to progress with the TPLO treated patients. The TPLO and TTA both allow for angular limb correction of the tibia and some concurrent patellar luxation repairs.

TTA The TTA (Tibial Tuberosity Advancement) was introduced a few years after the TPLO in Switzerland by Kyon Products. Originally touted as a better, quicker and less invasive procedure, most studies have now found the TPLO to be slightly superior to the TA. The TTA is generally not recommended for dogs over approximately 200 pounds. At **ProFormance Canine** we are certified to perform the procedure, but have not found a need to change our recommendations for performing the TPLO.

TIGHTROPE The TightRope procedure was designed by Dr. Cook as a quick and simple method to stabilize the stifle joint. Using new bio-materials, it is basically using the principles of the fibular head advancement to stabilize the joint. Large multi-institutional studies have had fair success, but results have not compared to the function of the TPLO or TTA. At **ProFormance Canine** we do not currently recommend this procedure.



Leg Braces Leg braces have recently been studied to stabilize cranial cruciate deficient knees. After 3 months, braces have been shown to help with lameness when they are worn, but dogs will rapidly become lame after exercise after the brace has been removed. At **ProFormance Canine** we do not currently recommend leg braces unless you need to support a dog for short periods of time before surgery or if the dog has terminal disease and surgery is not an option. Dogs need to be measured and the braces are custom made for an individual.

Recommendations:

Patients 10-35 pounds

Patients < 20 pounds **may not** need surgery if they show significant signs of improvement within 2 weeks of injury and do not have signs of meniscal injuries. We perform the **TPLO** procedure or **Lateral Suture** stabilization with equal success. Patients with steep tibial slopes (>30°) may do better with a TPLO.

Patients 35-60 pounds

We offer both **TPLO** and **Lateral Suture** repair for the dogs in this weight group. If the dog is a performance/working dog, or the owner wants to maximize the potential for a good functional outcome, we recommend the TPLO.

Patients 60-250+ pounds

We strongly recommend the **TPLO** repair for all dogs in this weight group. But the **Lateral Suture** can be performed. We recommend the TPLO repair exclusively for Rottweilers and Pit Bull Terriers.



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