



Dear concerned pet owner,

As you consider the post-surgical care journey ahead, invariably our experience suggests that the two most important concerns facing pet owners fall into one of two categories:

- 1) After-Care and Activity Restrictions – see handout on Post-Operative Orthopedic Survival Tips (http://www.vscdsurgerycenters.com/pdf/discharge-instructions/how_to_be_successful_post_op_ortho.pdf)
- 2) Post-Operative comfort and Pain-Control

Pain Control is Multi-Modal and Multi-Planar

- Ahead of surgery systemic narcotics are used to reduce anticipated pain and wind-up associated with unmitigated pain impulses
- Peri-Operative injectable NSAID's (non-steroidal anti-inflammatories) which are both anti-inflammatory (inflammation is the propagator of pain) and analgesic
- Topical/Local Analgesia – Bupivacaine or Nocita
- Oral Pain-Relievers once at home

A note on topical or local analgesia. This is essentially the same technique human dentists' use to 'numb' or render senseless areas of your mouth before performing painful procedures. During surgery, our surgeons will automatically apply bupivacaine to the surgical area which allows for 8 hours of pain relief. As an alternative, the surgeon can also apply Nocita which is a 3-day formulation of bupivacaine (in humans: Exparel) which achieves the same thing, but lasts for 3 days! Our experience with this drug has been universally impressive, with high levels of immediate post-operative comfort and fewer needs for additional pain-relieving medications.

If you would like us to administer Nocita, please tell your regular veterinarian! The cost for this is patient 'size' and incision 'type' dependent.

We look forward to partnering with you on your healing journey! Come. Stay. Heal...

Nocita

**TAILWIND VETERINARY SURGERY
CARE**

WEBSITE:
www.TailWindVSC.com