Supplementary Material to:

Management of cranial cruciate ligament rupture in small dogs: A questionnaire study
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Questionnaire on the management of Cranial Cruciate Ligament Rupture (CCLR) in dogs less than 15kg

This questionnaire has been designed as a research project. It is being carried out in order to review the different conservative and surgical techniques currently used by veterinarians, in the UK, to manage cranial cruciate ligament rupture (CCLR) in small dogs (<15kg). Please circle one response unless otherwise indicated. When completing this questionnaire assume that CCLR has been confirmed through a positive palpable cranial draw test or tibial compression test (under conscious examination or under sedation), radiography, arthroscopy, MRI scan or stifle effusion.

A. General demographic questions.

1. When did you graduate? ________________________________

2. What type of veterinary practice do you work in?
   i) First opinion small animal practice
   ii) First opinion Mixed practice
   iii) Small animal multidiscipline referral practice
   iv) Specialist orthopaedics referral practice
   v) Other (Please state) ________________________________

3. What is your position within the practice where you currently work?
   i) Partner
   ii) Assistant
   iii) Locum
   iv) Part-time
   v) RCVS/ECVS Resident
   vi) Other (Please state) ________________________________

1Small animal general practice
2Mixed general practice
B. **How do you manage small dogs that come into your practice with CCLR?**

1. Do you manage CCLR in dogs <15kg conservatively?
   - i) No, surgery would be performed on the affected stifle joint. ➤ Go to question 6 and then continue to complete the rest of the questionnaire.
   - ii) Yes ➤ Go to question 3 and then continue to complete the rest of the questionnaire.
   - iii) It depends on the case ➤ Go to question 2 and then continue to complete the rest of the questionnaire.
   - iv) Don’t know ➤ Go to question 2 and then continue to complete the rest of the questionnaire.

2. What factors are involved in your decision as to how to proceed with treatment of the case? Circle all of those factors which affect your decision.
   - i) Age
   - ii) Gender
   - iii) Breed
   - iv) Body weight/body condition score
   - v) Severity of lameness/injury
   - vi) Duration of lameness/injury
   - vii) Degree of stifle joint instability
   - viii) Expected work/energy levels required from the dog
   - ix) Evidence of bilateral disease
   - x) Owner expectation
   - xi) Other (Please state)

3. If you decide on conservative management, within which time period would you re-check the animal for improvement of its CCLR?
   - i) 0-4 weeks
   - ii) 4-8 weeks
   - iii) 8-12 weeks
   - iv) Other (Please state)
   - v) Don’t know
4. What methods of conservative management do you employ? Circle all those that you currently use.
   i) Short leash walks only (no off the lead exercise), increasing gradually over a period of several weeks
   ii) Cage rest
   iii) Weight loss
   iv) Physiotherapy
   v) Hydrotherapy
   vi) NSAID Licensed for treatment of osteoarthritis
   vii) Other drugs (Please state which drugs) ____________________________
   viii) Other methods (Please state) ____________________________

5. If there are clinical signs of improvement after the initial period of conservative management, would you continue to manage the case conservatively?
   i) Yes
   ii) No
   iii) Depends on the factors circled in question 2
   iv) Don’t know

6. If it is decided that the animal requires surgery, do you perform the surgery?
   i) Yes ⟷ Go to question 7
   ii) No, the dog will be referred ⟷ End of questions
   iii) Don’t know ⟷ Go to question 7

7. If you perform surgery on the affected stifle, which surgical techniques do you use? Circle those techniques which you most frequently use.
   i) Intra-articular method- ‘over-the-top’ intra-articular graft procedure
   ii) Extra-capsular stabilisation method (using lateral fabello-tibial sutures)
   iii) Corrective osteotomies i.e.: TTA, TPLO, TTO, CWO
   iv) Other (Please State) ____________________________