

## Cassie – The Scare!

I wrote last week about my lovely little Klee Kai dog, Cassie, who had “tibial plateau leveling osteotomy” surgery several months ago and had been confined to bed rest for two months following the complex orthopedic procedure. We had been advised by the veterinary specialist who performed the surgery that “your pet requires continued postoperative home nursing care in order to facilitate a successful outcome. This care primarily entails restriction of your pet’s activity for nine weeks and beyond.” Well! Needless to say, my husband and I and Cassie’s caregivers were very upset, as Cassie is so energetic, athletic and agile.

Anyway, you may recall that Cassie was released from her “crate incarceration” several weeks ago and was doing remarkably well – so happy to be free to run and play. A few days ago, we noticed her leg and the long scar that remained. We also noticed that the technician who had removed Cassie’s stitches had failed to remove numerous staples. Cassie’s leg was very sensitive to the touch, and I became extremely worried that there might be complications pertaining to the staples, which were now quite embedded into her skin.

I called our vet immediately and apprised him of the situation. I was very upset, fearing Cassie would have to suffer even more as the staples were removed from her fragile skin. I was also concerned that Cassie would have to be sedated or anesthetized (always risky!) in my opinion. She had already been through so much.

My dear friend, Lou, took Cassie in to see our regular vet (not the specialist that had performed the surgery as he had been brought in from out of town). Fortunately, no anesthesia or sedation was required, and the staples came out quickly, easily and painlessly. Whew!!! Cassie also received her annual vaccinations and had an x-ray taken of her leg. The surgical procedure was deemed a great success, and Cassie’s leg has healed perfectly. I can’t tell you how relieved I was to hear the good news! Cassie is a very special and loving little girl – and so courageous!

We are so pleased that she is fine! We’ll be giving her an extra special treat tonight for being such a good and healthy girl!!!