

## Common Injuries seen in Man's Best Friend

Our dogs are active at all times of the year. They can injure themselves in many ways that humans injure themselves when they are active. Depending on the time of the year will determine the type of injury that is seen more commonly. During the winter months when the ground is icy and slippery, dogs can pull their groin muscles, bicep muscles or even strain their neck muscles. Generally the injury can be medically managed and with rest so that the muscles can heal.

Another common injury is a torn ligament in the knee, very similar to the sports injury that is seen most commonly in football players. This injury can occur from running in the backyard, doing a sport like activity such as fetch or Frisbee or even slipping on the ice. This injury typically needs to be surgically repaired with 8 weeks of restricted activity after the surgery. There are several different surgical options, which should be discussed with a board certified surgeon and your regular veterinarian to determine which is the best option for your pet.

Some of the common breeds that these injuries are seen in are Labrador Retrievers, Golden Retrievers, Border Collies, Shepherds, Mastiffs, American Bulldogs, Rottweiler and Saint Bernards. These are just some of the common breeds; the injuries can happen to any dog of any size. It is important to follow the instructions of the veterinarian to ensure proper healing so that they do not reinjure themselves. If you have questions regarding the surgery or aftercare instructions, ask.

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