

Our Orthopedic Surgical Team



Dr. Brian Scott; Chris Wenzel, Veterinary Technician; Dr. Jim Nicolas

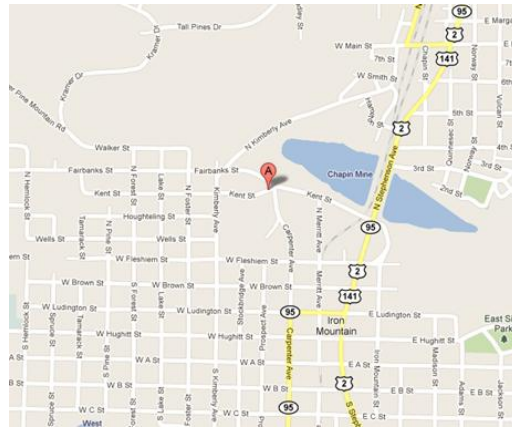


Dr. Brian Scott, Dr. James Nicolas performing TTA Surgery, assisted by Chris



TTA in Dog Post-Operative

Location: IMAH is located at 325 Kent Street, Iron Mountain, MI and easily accessible from US2



We offer financing through
CareCredit
Patient Payment Plans

If you would like to review financial arrangement options with one of our team members in advance of treatment, please call 906-774-5961.



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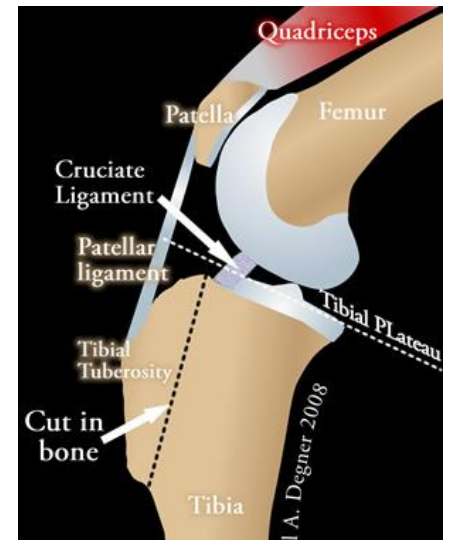
Iron Mountain Animal Hospital

Tibial Tuberosity Advancement

TTA

for the repair of the
cranial cruciate ligament

Client Information Brochure



Cranial Cruciate Ligament Injury

The **most common** orthopedic disorder of the canine stifle (knee) is complete or partial rupture of the cranial cruciate ligament (CCL). The most common pathogenesis of rupture is thought to be the ligamentous changes that occur with disuse and progressive age. It is also theorized that the sedentary lifestyle of the middle-aged dog, compounded by obesity, may lead to diminished mechanical strength of the CCL. Other proposed mechanisms include congenital anatomical abnormalities, auto-immune disease, tick borne disease, and premature spaying/neutering. The biomechanical stress caused by a downward sloping tibial plateau and its relationship with the patellar tendon coupled with the above factors lead to CCL injury.

There are specific signs associated with complete or partial rupture of the CCL that your veterinarian will look for during the physical exam.

These signs include:

- ✚ lameness
- ✚ failed Sit Test
- ✚ positive cranial drawer movement and/or
- ✚ cranial tibial thrust
- ✚ hypertrophied medial buttress
- ✚ potential muscle atrophy of the rear limb affected.

It is important to note that the absence of one or many of these findings does not rule out complete rupture of the CCL. Complete rupture results in front-to-back instability called tibial thrust, and internal rotation of the lower leg called pivot shift. Due to this instability, untreated legs most commonly lead to arthritic pain, muscle atrophy, and progressive degenerative joint disease which is almost always debilitating if left untreated.

TTA

The Iron Mountain Animal Hospital is proud to offer the Tibial Tuberosity Advancement (TTA) procedure as a cutting edge approach to CCL repair.

The TTA procedure involves making a cut in the front part of the tibia (tibial tuberosity) and advancing this portion of bone forward, which changes the angle of the patellar tendon to neutralize the shearing forces between the tibia and the femur during weight bearing. Therefore, the joint becomes stable once again.

A specialized bone spacer, plate and screws are used to secure the bone in place. Synthetic bone graft putty is placed in the gap that was created to stimulate bone growth and healing.



Most dogs having a TTA performed go home the next day with appropriate pain management and strict physical therapy guidelines. It is recommended that x-rays be performed 12 weeks post surgery to check for potential complications and proper bone healing.

- *Untreated legs usually become very arthritic and painful from the instability -*

The TTA is a relatively new procedure that is less invasive than the TPLO (tibial plateau leveling osteotomy) procedure with a quicker healing time and fewer post operative complications.

TTA is an excellent procedure for almost all dogs, especially athletic ones. In very few instances, other procedures may be indicated. We also offer **Extra-Articular CCL Repair** which seems to be more appropriate for small to medium sized, less active dogs.

Please allow us to assist you with making the right decision for your companion for the diagnosis and treatment of CCL injury.

(906) 774-5961

“TTA surgery could possibly be the best surgery for your dog’s knee. Unlike the TPLO, the bone that is cut is a smaller fragment that does not disrupt the primary loading axis of the tibia, allowing for a less invasive procedure and a faster recovery.”

Dr. Brian Scott, DVM
Iron Mountain Animal Hospital