

# An Owner's Guide

Medial Patellar Luxation Surgery  
Using the OrthoLine™ MPL  
Plate System



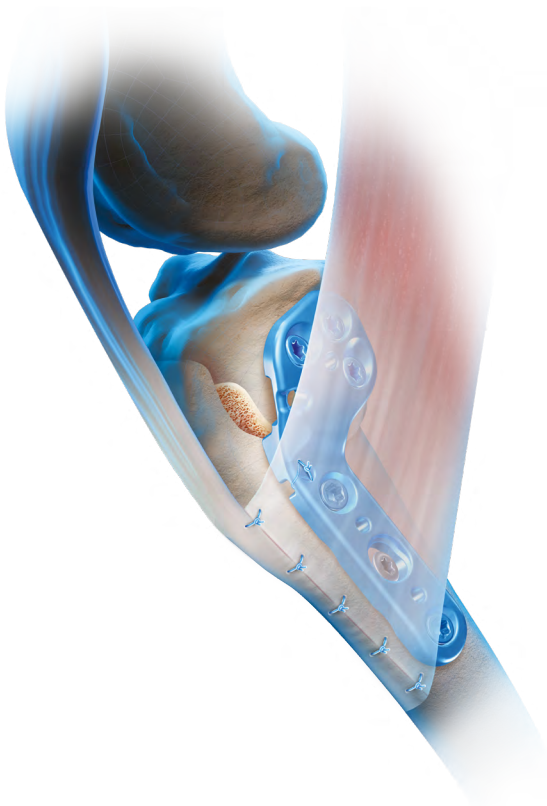
**Arthrex®**  
Vet Systems

## The Arthrex Difference

Arthrex Vet Systems brings decades of orthopedic innovation directly to veterinary medicine, driven by our mission of Helping Veterinarians Treat Their Patients Better™. We support veterinarians with advanced, reliable tools and techniques so they can provide safe, effective care for your pet.

Our implants, instruments, and techniques are designed specifically for animal anatomy. This pet-focused approach helps veterinarians to achieve secure fixation, restore joint stability, and support healthy, long-term healing.

Arthrex Vet Systems continually develops new technologies that give veterinary surgeons greater precision and clarity in the operating room, from advanced imaging tools to refined instrumentation that supports predictable, dependable outcomes. We're committed to supporting the long-term health and mobility of pets everywhere, helping them return to the activities they love as quickly and safely as possible.



## What is medial patellar luxation?

The patella (kneecap) normally glides in a groove at the end of the femur (thigh bone) as your dog bends and straightens the knee. With patellar luxation, the kneecap slips out of that groove, most commonly toward the inside of the leg (medial luxation).

When the kneecap tracks abnormally, it can cause dogs to skip on the affected back leg. Over time, they can develop wear on the cartilage and changes in the knee joint. Dogs with MPL (medial patellar luxation) are also predisposed to developing a cranial cruciate ligament (CCL) injury, which is similar to an ACL injury in people.

When a CCL injury occurs, dogs often develop ongoing lameness and may hold the affected leg up, avoiding putting weight on it when walking or running. This is different from MPL alone, where dogs typically skip or hop on the leg. CCL injuries are common in dogs and can occur with or without MPL.

## How is MPL diagnosed?

Diagnosis typically includes a physical orthopedic exam in which your veterinarian checks kneecap and CCL stability. X-rays (radiographs) are used to evaluate the knee and limb alignment to help plan surgery.





## How does MPL surgery work?

A CCL injury is often treated with a surgery called tibial plateau leveling osteotomy (TPLO). This surgery helps stabilize the knee by changing the angle of the shinbone so the joint no longer slides in an unstable way.

If a dog also has MPL, the veterinarian may perform additional steps during surgery to help keep the kneecap in the correct position and allow the knee to move more normally. Every dog is different, so your veterinarian will choose the combination of procedures that is best for your pet.

Depending on your dog's needs, surgery may include:

- › Making the groove deeper or smoother so the kneecap can move in the right track
- › Adjusting where the kneecap tendon attaches to the shinbone to help the muscles pull in a straighter, more balanced way
- › Balancing the tissues around the knee by tightening loose areas and relaxing tight areas to reduce the chance of the kneecap popping out

In some dogs, the veterinarian may also correct bone alignment problems, such as a thigh bone that is slightly twisted or angled. Before surgery, your veterinarian will carefully review your dog's x-rays to decide which steps are needed to give your dog the best chance for a strong, stable knee and a comfortable recovery.

## What is unique about the OrthoLine™ MPL plate design?

The OrthoLine MPL plate system is designed to help realign your pet's knee so their kneecap stays where it should and moves comfortably again.

### Postoperative care

A successful recovery depends on following your veterinarian's instructions after surgery. Most dogs need about 8 weeks of strict activity restriction while the bone heals. After follow-up x-rays show healing, activity is slowly increased with controlled exercise.

Your veterinarian may recommend:

- › Restricted activity at home, including confinement when your dog is not being supervised
- › Short, controlled, slow leash walks only; no running, jumping, playing or stairs unless your veterinarian says it is safe
- › Pain management and incision care as instructed
- › Recheck visits and follow-up x-rays as recommended to confirm healing
- › A rehabilitation or physical therapy plan to help rebuild strength and improve movement as your dog recovers

Contact your veterinary team right away if you notice increased pain, swelling, loss of appetite, redness or drainage at the incision site, or a sudden change in how your dog uses the leg.



# Contact Information

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US patent information

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