

## **Changing Teddie's bandages**

Because Teddie was born with no hind legs, her stumps need to be bandaged to keep the stumps from getting sores and/or infected. She has had a couple surgeries on both stumps to remove tissue growths.

I will leave pre-cut strips of the bandage ensemble in baggies for each changing. If she had a thumb splint placed at the end of her cast padding wrapped stump which is subsequently over-wrapped with vet wrap, please retain the thumb splint for re-use with the new bandaging. This sounds like a lot, I will break down the process step by step:

### **To Remove the bandages:**

1. Carefully remove the outside vet wrap with scissors – take extra care not to cut her leg. There are three (3) layers of vet wrap.
2. Remove the cast padding wrap. Take care on the stump as a small spot of the tissue growth may stick to the telfa pad that is attached to the cast pad in that location. If you pulled the tissue growth, it might bleed a bit. Just pat with a clean cast pad, bleeding should stop.
3. Due this process for the right stump.

### **To Re-Wrap her Stumps:**

1. Clean the stumps with a clean piece of cast pad or gauze. Check for any redness, swelling, or new tissue growths.
2. Carefully put a thin coat of Calendula gel on the exposed skin on the stumps (this keeps the skin from drying out and is a natural and mild antiseptic).
3. For the LEFT stump, also put a very small amount of Collaste (collagen dressing) on the tissue growth.
4. Stick the quarter of Curagel onto the pre-cut strip of Curad Telfa and then stick the curagel side onto the pre-cut cast padding.
5. Center the telfa side of the pad on the end of her stump and wrap the cast padding strip around her leg and over the top of the stump. Note that she does chew on this wrap and be sure that the cast pad extends up her leg a bit.
6. If the thumb splint was present, place the thumb splint over the end of the cast pad wrapping and gently form the end of the splint along her leg. Take care not to make it too tight or too loose.
7. Then take one of the long strips of vet wrap (a 2-inch wide wrap cut in half length wise) and wrap carefully around the end of the thumb splint and then up the leg to cover the cast pad wrap.
8. Take the full 2-inch wide by about 3-inches long vet wrap and place over the top of the thumb splint and secure the ends to the vet wrap just placed below.
9. Finally, wrap around the tip of the thumb splint over the vet wrap placed in #8, around the rest of thumb splint and up the leg.

I have found that the bandage seems to stay secure on her leg and she doesn't pull it off. Please take care to NOT WRAP TOO TIGHTLY – we don't want to cause any circulation problems.