Supplementary Material to:

Handling of the tibial muscle envelope in tibial plateau levelling osteotomy - to elevate or not?  
A clinical study of 40 dogs

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Appendix 1: Key and criteria used to assess leg use at the two- and eight-week visits.

- 1 = excellent: no lameness or stiffness
- 2 = good: very slight lameness or stiffness
- 3 = fair weight-bearing: lameness or moderate stiffness
- 4 = poor: non-weight-bearing lameness or severe stiffness

Appendix 2: Healing score description

- **Cortex score:**
  - 0 = no proliferation along cortical margins
  - 1 = Callus formation along one cortical margin, complete bridging of that cortex, or both
  - 2 = Callus formation along two cortical margins, complete bridging of those cortices, or both
  - 3 = Callus formation along three cortical margins, complete bridging of those cortices, or both
  - 4 = Callus formation along four cortical margins, complete bridging of those cortices, or both

  If there were signs of callus formation along a cortex (but the osteotomy line could still be seen at that cortex) or the cortex was healed (without a lot of peripheral callus formation), they were given the same score.

- **Osteotomy score:**
  - 0 = easily seen osteotomy without any evidence of closure and distinct margins
  - 1 = easily seen osteotomy, but margins indistinct
  - 2 = moderately difficult to see the osteotomy margins
  - 3 = difficult to see the osteotomy margins
  - 4 = osteotomy margins not seen at all

  If different parts of the osteotomy would have different scores, the lowest score for that bone was used (if there were radiographic signs that the osteotomy was completely closed caudally, but only partly closed cranially, then the more cranial score was used).