Participating veterinary clinic/centre:

For further information about veterinary tissue donation, please contact:

VETERINARY TISSUE BANK
Unit 3, The Long Barn
Brynkinall Business Centre
Chirk
Wrexham
LL14 5NS
Tel. 01691 778769
www.vtbank.org

Helping other pets in need
What is veterinary tissue donation?
Advances in veterinary surgery mean that it is now possible to transplant tissues such as bone and tendon in dogs and cats to help treat broken bones, bone cancer, or ligament and tendon ruptures. These transplants come from a deceased donor dog or cat, and they are species specific (allograft), e.g. dog for dog and cat for cat.

Thanks to tissue donation, dogs with severe fractures are able to make rapid recoveries.

Can any dog or cat donate tissue?
Any dog or cat can be a donor but to make sure the transplants are safe, certain medical criteria need to be met. For example, absence of vaccination history or certain diseases would prevent some pets from becoming a donor. Your vet will be able to advise you on eligibility.

How do I consent to donate tissue from my pet?
Tissue donation can only take place when your pet is at the end of its life. If you wish to donate please raise the issue with your vet who will advise whether or not your pet meets the donor medical selection criteria. Your vet will then ask you to sign a consent form and pass on the information to Veterinary Tissue Bank. You will have an option to receive further information of how your kind donation has helped other pets in need.

Are there any costs involved in tissue donation?
Veterinary tissue donation operates to strict ethical guidelines. There is no cost, nor any financial reward, for the owner. When the tissue has been retrieved, the body will be cremated in the usual manner unless an alternative arrangement is requested.

Why should I agree to donate my pet for tissue donation?
We all hope our dogs and cats have long and healthy lives, but unfortunately this is not always the case. Some pets are involved in accidents or develop diseases that can now be helped with tissue transplantation. These animals can return to a happy and normal life with the benefit of a bone or tendon transplant, made possible by your kindness and generosity.

Losing a beloved dog or cat is a time of great sadness and grief, but this may be slightly easier to bear in the knowledge that your pet has helped other pets in need.