Case Report in Chronic Stifle Lameness

Patient Data

Breed: Vizsla
Age: 5 yrs, 7 months
Sex: Neutered male

History

On January 9, 2006 arthroscopic surgery was performed to repair a partially torn left cranial cruciate ligament. The diagnosis was confirmed by the arthroscopy which also showed mild degenerative joint disease. A 9 mm tibial tuberosity advancement was performed and secured using a 6 hole specialized TTA plate. A bone graft harvested from the distal femur was packed around the osteotomy site. The site was lavaged.

On December 1, 2006 a left hind limb lameness exam was performed. Arthroscopy revealed that additional tearing of the ACL had occurred compared to the original surgery. A large amount of fibrous tissue was present around the base of the ACL. The ACL and tissue were debrided. Both the medial and lateral menisci were intact. A Slocum meniscal release was performed.

Pre-Treatment Exam

On February 19, 2007 a left hind limb lameness exam was performed due to continued lameness. At this time the veterinarian scored the lameness and the pain as 3 out of 4. The owner's assessment at this time was 3 out of 4 for both lameness and stiffness and 4 out of 5 for pain.

Adipose Collection

Also on February 19, 2007, arthroscopy revealed moderate degenerative joint disease and moderate inflammation at the level of the previous meniscal release. Both menisci were intact. Arthroscopic portals were left open. Adipose (24.2 grams) was harvested from the falciform ligament. The site was lavaged and closed.

Stem and Regenerative Cells Injection

On February 21, 2007, the left stifle was injected intra-articularly with 3,000,000 stem and regenerative cells from the dog's own adipose tissue.

Exam Day 30 Post Stem Cell Treatment

On March 21, 2007 the orthopedic exam showed only a mild lameness score and no pain. The veterinarian felt the results were dramatic. The owner assessment showed no lameness and only mild stiffness and pain. The owner commented that the dog is doing very well.

Summary

This patient's owner was given a grave prognosis for recovery due to the chronic and severe nature of the OA in this joint. The regenerative cell therapy was truly a heroic last effort to improve the quality of life. The positive orthopedic exam results as well as the owner evaluation of the progress from severe down to mild after intra-articular adipose-derived stem and regenerative cell treatment is dramatic and very encouraging for a better prognosis for an improved quality of life. Data will be collected and reported on this case out to 365 days.