

NEW TREATMENT FOR OSTEOARTHRITIS

ELECTRIC CITY ANIMAL CLINIC RECENTLY EMBARKED ON A NEW PROCEDURE TO HELP DOGS WITH OSTEOARTHRITIS.

THE NEW TECHNIQUE AVAILABLE TO US INVOLVES HARVESTING ADIPOSE TISSUE (FAT) FROM DOGS AND INJECTING REGENERATIVE STEM CELLS OBTAINED FROM THE ADIPOSE TISSUE INTO THE JOINTS AFFECTED BY ARTHRITIS. THIS ADIPOSE TISSUE IS TAKEN FROM BEHIND THE SHOULDER OR FROM THE GROIN AREA DURING GENERAL ANESTHESIA AND SENT ASEPTICALLY TO A LAB IN SAN DIEGO, CA CALLED VET-STEM (VET-STEM.COM). THE PATIENT NEEDS TO BE EXAMINED PRIOR TO THE ANESTHETIC PROCEDURE TO DETERMINE IF HE OR SHE IS HEALTHY ENOUGH FOR THE ANESTHESIA AND SURGERY. THIS EXAMINATION WILL INCLUDE BLOOD WORK AND POSSIBLY X-RAYS AND AN ECG.

ONCE THE ADIPOSE TISSUE IS HARVESTED AND SENT TO THE LAB, THEY WILL PROCESS THE TISSUE AND PLACE THE HARVESTED REGENERATIVE STEM CELLS INTO SYRINGES FOR US TO INJECT INTO THE AFFECTED JOINTS. WE CAN INJECT UP TO 4 JOINTS AT ONE TIME. ANY EXTRA STEM CELLS ARE FROZEN AND STORED BY THE LAB FOR LATER USE. THE FIRST YEAR OF STORAGE IS INCLUDED IN THE COST OF THE PROCEDURE AND ADDITIONAL YEARS OF STORAGE WILL BE BILLED DIRECTLY TO THE PET OWNER.

WHY DOES THIS WORK? THE STEM CELLS HAVE A ENORMOUS POTENTIAL TO DIFFERENTIATE INTO ALL TYPES OF CELLS. THESE STEM CELLS CAN BECOME CARTILAGE CELLS, JOINT CAPSULE CELLS, CELLS TO HELP IMPROVE JOINT FLUID, LIGAMENT AND TENDON CELLS. THE ABILITY OF THESE STEMS CELLS TO DIFFERENTIATE WILL IN TURN HELPS TO REJUVENATE THE AFFECTED JOINTS AND MAINTAIN HEALTHY JOINTS.

VET-STEM LAB AND OTHER RESEARCHERS ARE LOOKING INTO USING THESE REGENERATIVE STEM CELLS TO HELP WITH CARDIAC DISEASE, LIVER DISEASE, PANCREATIC DISEASE AND BONE MARROW DISEASE, SO THE POTENTIAL IN VETERINARY MEDICINE IS GREAT.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS VERY PROMISING NEW PROCEDURE, PLEASE CONTACT US AT ELECTRIC CITY ANIMAL CLINIC.