



Available at Avondale Veterinary Healthcare Complex as an In-House Treatment Option

Stem Cell Therapy - Animal Regenerative Therapy

By Dr Tricia Beasley

Avondale veterinarians are excited to offer a relatively new therapy in the treatment of osteoarthritis, hip and elbow dysplasia, ligamentous and cartilaginous injury and other degenerative conditions. Medivet-America's in-house stem cell therapy technology and procedure makes use of autologous stem cells to assist with the healing process of these diseases.

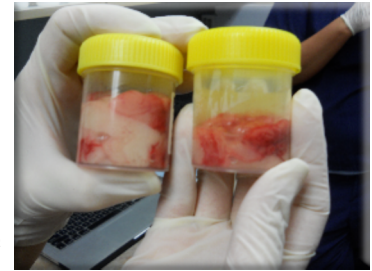
Stem cell therapies have been practiced in veterinary medicine since 2003 when it was first used in equine patients. Benefits were recognized early on and now roughly 1500 veterinarians are using a form of stem cell therapy around the nation. This procedure does not lead to ethical debate, for embryonic stem cells are not collected and instead use of adult stem cells via autologous collection is practiced. This method reduces reaction and it has not, to the author's knowledge, resulted in patient rejection.

This regenerative therapy involves harvesting adipose tissue from the animal, separating or digesting the fat to obtain stem cells, activating the cells using growth factors and light therapy and then injecting the affected joints with the activated stem cells. Harvesting the cells requires a short anesthetic procedure in which adipose is collected most frequently from the falciform ligament or adipose associated with the shoulder. A certified technician performs the processing of the tissue immediately following the procedure, so that stem cells are typically available for injection into the joints within 2-3 hours. The processing is a drug free process that isolates stem cells and then uses growth factors from platelets and light photostimulation to activate dormant cells and allow multiplication of the cells. The procedure allows us to harness the existing repair mechanisms of the body, concentrate it and directly inject this natural product into location of injury where healing is being requested.

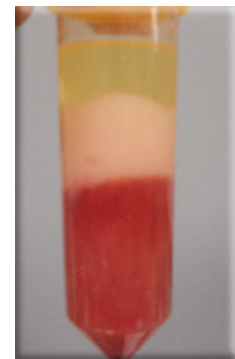
The beneficial properties of stem cells include the ability to regenerate and the capacity for some stem cell types to help regulate immune function. Successful procedures result in an increase range of motion and decreased perceived pain. Medivet America has provided us with the ability to obtain stem cells and inject them the same day of collection. Their protocol allows for greater efficiency at a reduced cost and an increased number of retrieved active stem cells for use, as compared to previous stem cell therapy options. Medivet also offers the option of freezing these cells for future injections. At the present time the duration of effect has not been established, but is expected to have a range of 1-3 years in patients demonstrating benefits. Many veterinarians are stating that they are seeing an estimated 70-80% improvement in their patient's gait and suspected comfort.

We, at Avondale, are pleased to provide our colleagues, clients and pets another option for which medication is not preferred or is not showing benefit. The procedure has been performed at our location on three patients to date and their outcomes will be closely monitored and reported. Benefits typically are noted within a 4 to 8 week time period, therefore an evaluation will be available from us at that time. Candidates must be selected cautiously, therefore, please contact us for more information on the screening process. We, at Avondale Veterinary Healthcare Complex are hopeful that our upcoming experiences with stem cell therapy will lead to increased veterinary advocacy and more importantly increased quality patient care!

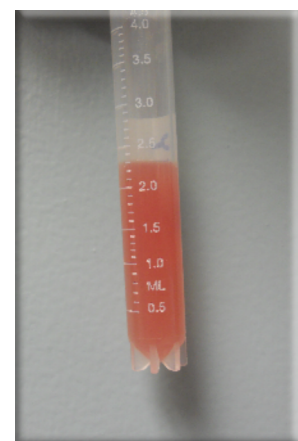
Please visit our website at www.avondalevet.com to read the news story published in the Des Moines Register about our use of Stem Cell therapy.



Adipose Tissue



Separating fat to obtain cells



STEM CELLS



Vet Care Spending grew to \$13 Billion in 2010 

Spending on veterinary care grew about 8% to \$13.01 billion in 2010, showing the greatest growth within the pet industry according to American Pet Products Association. Veterinary and health related services are growing at a fast rate because pet owners are treating their pets as they would their children, said Bob Vetere, president of APPA, of Greenwich, Connecticut. The overall spending figures include food, supplies, veterinary care, live animals purchase and other services such as grooming, boarding and pet sitting.

Number of pets owned in the United States			
Dogs	78 million	Birds	16.2 million
Cats	86.4 million	Small Animals	16 million
Freshwater Fish	151.1 million	Reptiles	13 million
Saltwater Fish	8.61 million	Equines	7.9 million

Category	2010 Actual (\$ billion)	2011 Estimates (\$ billion)
Food	\$18.76	\$19.53
Supplies / OTC Medications	\$10.94	\$11.4
Veterinary Care	\$13.01	\$14.11
Other Services	\$3.51	\$3.65

Source: AMERICAN PET PRODUCTS ASSOCIATIONS/

The 2010 National Pet Owners Survey examines the demographics, buying habits and other traits of U. S. Owners of dogs, cats, fish, birds, horses, reptiles and other small animals. A survey had shown that the number of U. S. Households that own a pet has increased by 2.1 % to an all time high of 72.9 million. About 4 of 10 pet-owning households own multiple pets. The greatest expenses for dog and cat owners are food, kennel/boarding, routine veterinary visits, and surgical veterinary visits. Some estimates predict that pet owners spend an average of \$11,000 per pet during it's lifetime, even in times of recession, according to the APPA. Owners take their cats to the veterinarian more often in 2010 (2.4) than in 2008 (2.1). The average number of times a dog has been taken to the veterinarian in the past 12 months is almost 3 (2.7), nearly identical to the number of visits in 2008 (2.8)

PICKLE VON CORNDOG?

Fido and Fluffy, step aside!





Each year VPI Insurance sifts through it's roster of insured pets to find those with the craziest names. Here are the top 10 names for dogs and cats in 2010

Dogs:	Cats:
1. Pickle Von Corndog	1. Purr Diem
2. Lord Chubby Pruneface	2. Bing Clawsby
3. Badonkadonnk	3. Cleocatra
4. Ninjastar Dangerock	4. Admiral Pancake
5. Molly McBoozehound	5. Optimus Pants
6. Dog Vader	6. Chairman Meow
7. Flopsy Squeakerton	7. Boo Manchu
8. Bettie Poops	8. Watts In A Name
9. Geez Louise	9. Chenoa Azure Marshmellow-Puff
10. Barnaby Bones	10. Senor Nachos

The Other Coast By Adrian Raeside

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FACEBOOK FOR DOGS:

FACEBOOK	RUSTY'S FRIENDS
	 MAX HAS A LOUD BARK.
RUSTY-LIKES CHASING CATS, SWIMMING AND PLAYING BALL.	 FLUFFY, LIKES SNOOZING.
	 JERRY, BIG APPETITE.