VIKING VETERINARY CARE CELEBRATES 2 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Viking Veterinary Care is proud to celebrate our second anniversary this week! Thank you to all of our clients and patients that have been SO supportive since we opened. We are honored to be entrusted with the care of your pets!

Sincerely,

Dr. Rosie Gilbert, Dr. KristyAnn Brock, and the Staff at Viking Veterinary Care

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Sam and Dean: Ready for Their Furever Home!

Rainy days are for sleeping and cuddling. Sam and Dean (formerly known as Sugar and Spice) understand this for sure! These two "supurrnatural" snuggle buddies are available together for $200 through Northwest Animal Companions Oregon. They are already neutered, microchipped, and fully vaccinated. They are of the Manx-persuasion (Sam being a "stumpy" and Dean being a "rumpy"). Come on in and meet them!

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Want to Learn More About Regenerative Medicine?

When medication and physical therapy are not enough, it's time to consider Stem Cell Therapy and Platelet Rich Plasma! Reserve your spot at our client information night on September 13th at 6pm at Viking Veterinary Care by calling 971-371-4024. Snacks provided while you learn about the latest treatment option for osteoarthritis, severe allergies, and other inflammatory conditions.

For more information, check out http://medivetbiologics.com/.../pet-ow.../why-stem-cell-therapy/
What is it?

**Platelet Rich Plasma (PRP)** is a concentration of platelets, growth factors, and signaling proteins. It is a potent anti-inflammatory and can be used to treat chronic tendonitis, arthritis, wounds, burns, and post-surgical sites. The signaling proteins tell the body to send **stem cells** to the area where the PRP is injected, which differentiate into whatever is needed to repair the area (i.e. new cartilage, synovial lining, etc.). Growth factors assist in bringing blood flow to the area to increase healing, decrease inflammation, and provide increased energy sources to cells as they repair.

PRP can be done alone as an outpatient procedure or can be used in combination with stem cell therapy. The amount saved by owners in anti-inflammatories, laser treatments, Adequan injections, supplements, and other modalities needed to remain comfortable makes this therapy a more affordable option for pain control in some pets.

How does it work?

Stem Cells are the body’s own restoration system. Mechanisms within the body attract stem cells to areas of inflammation and differentiate into cells that are needed for healing. As the body ages, it has a harder time activating its own stem cells. With our new in-house processing system, we can actually harvest them, activate them, and inject them exactly where we want them (in the joint). Stem cells have been shown to help with osteoarthritis pain, disc disease, tendon or ligament tears, hip dysplasia, and other musculoskeletal issues.

Remaining activated stem cells are given intravenously and migrate to areas of inflammation in the body. Cases have been reported of resolved kidney disease, allergic dermatitis, inflammatory bowel disease, and other chronic conditions as a result of treating arthritis issues. Treatments other than osteoarthritis are considered “compassionate use” as there are no completed studies for conditions that are not musculoskeletal at this time. Stem cell use is currently being explored in humans to treat a wide range of conditions, including paralysis and Alzheimer’s disease.

What is involved?

Platelet Rich Plasma is concentrated from a blood draw. Stem cells are harvested from fat under approximately 20 minutes of general anesthesia. Other procedures, such as dental cleanings and mass removals, can take place at the same time as the procedure.

Viking Veterinary Care is working with Medivet Biologics to process stem cells and PRP in our hospital for 3 main reasons:

1.) Surgery to harvest the stem cells, processing, joint injections, and IV stem cells can all take place in one day. Your pet can go home with you the same evening.

2.) Processing stem cells in our hospital rather than sending them to an outside lab decreases the number of stem cells lost in transit, making more available for your pet’s inflammatory conditions.

3.) Medivet is the only regenerative medicine company using PRP and light activation with their stem cells, resulting in dramatically improved numbers of stem cells, both at harvest and when removed from cryogenic storage for additional treatments.

How long does it last?

The effects of PRP last weeks to months, which is why it is used for less involved conditions that just need a little added assistance in healing. Stem cell therapy effects typically last 18 to 24 months and can be cryogenically preserved so the next time they are used, anesthesia is not necessary.

I had just started my ICU shift at Dove Lewis Emergency Animal Hospital when I looked up from my charting to see what all the commotion was. A “sick” whirling dervish of white poofy hair had quickly and effectively taken out 3 technicians trying to assess him. “The transfer is here,” they called to me, while the Tasmanian devil at the end of the leash gracefully rounded on anyone approaching him.  

As I reviewed his chart, my patient was now holding still long enough for me to appreciate what a beautiful Alaskan Eskimo Dog he was. “Manny” was transferred for Immune Mediated Hemolytic Anemia (IMHA), a severe autoimmune disease where the body attacks its owner’s red blood cells until there aren’t enough to transport oxygen. He was going to be spending at least 3-5 days with us in the hospital while we got his red blood cell consumption stabilized with immunosuppressive drugs and possibly a blood transfusion. This was going to be fun.

With sedation, we were able to get an IV catheter and fluids in Manny, but treatments weren’t working out so well-Manny declined our care. He was scared, angry, and didn’t want to be here. There had to be SOMETHING we could do to make this easier, for him and for us!

When Manny’s family came to visit later that day, I brought them into an exam room and explained the situation. I couldn’t get Manny out of the kennel safely without possibly tearing out his IV line that we worked so hard to get in. I didn’t want to keep him sedated all day, so I asked them for ideas on what we could do to make Manny more comfortable with us. “Does he have a favorite toy? Is there a treat that could help win him over? What could we do to let Manny know we’re not the enemy?”

“Well, there is this ONE thing…” they replied slowly.

Sensing their hesitation, I pounced. “Great! What is it? I’ll do anything!”

His owners looks at each other and smiled at the corner of their mouths. “He likes it when you sing the Sleep Country USA jingle.”

“I’m sorry what?”

“You know, ‘Sleep Country USA! Why buy a mattress anywhere else? Ding!’ It’s important you sing the little ding at the end.”

I started looking around the exam room for hidden cameras. Nothing. I watched their faces carefully to see if they were messing with me. Nope, they appeared sincere. “Alrighty…be right back.”

I went back into ICU, sat in front of Manny’s kennel. He stared at me barking, growling, and pawing at the kennel doors. Mumbling “Here goes nothing…” I promptly broke out into song. “Sleep Country USA! What buy a mattress anywhere else? Ding!”

While my technical staff stared at me like I lost my mind, Manny answered with a very happy “Roo Roo Rooooooo!” and started wagging his tail. I reached over and undid the latch to the kennel, slid a leash on Manny, and he trotted right into my lap to lay down. I was dumbfounded and my tech started laughing. “Yeah, you just wait. You’ll be singing it too whenever you care for this little guy! Don’t forget the ‘ding’. It’s very important to sing the ‘ding’ at the end.”

For the rest of the week, you would have thought the hospital had gone into the mattress business. Everyone who cared for Manny had to sing the jingle and it was promptly answered by his “Roo Roo Rooooooo!” and his cooperation. Manny received a blood transfusion, did well with his medication, and got to go home.

A few weeks later, a tech walked back a white wolverine. “This guy is here for a recheck blood draw…” she said, doubtfully. I started singing as I walked up to him, “Sleep Country USA! Why by a mattress anywhere else? Ding!”

“Roo Roo Rooooooo” sang the wolverine and Manny sat in my lap, covering my face with kisses. One of Manny’s techs from ICU heard the song and came over immediately. “It’s important you sing the ‘ding’,” she said, shaking her head but smiling.
Fall Adequan Promotion

Have you been interested in trying Adequan? For the rest of September and October, we will be offering Adequan at 25% off!

Adequan contains polysulfated glycosaminoglycan (PSGAG), which are the building materials for the joints to heal themselves. Additionally, the PSGAG’s have anti-inflammatory properties, inhibit cartilage breakdown, and stimulate the production of joint fluid and collagen.

Adequan is labeled for dogs, but has been used safely and effectively off-label for cats for years. It is administered as injections, with the recommended dosing at two injections/week for 4 weeks, then one injection/week for 4 weeks, then decreasing to the lowest possible dose that is still effective for your pet. We are happy to do the injections for you, or show you how to administer them yourself at home.

“I, personally, have seen it be incredibly effective in older cats that are having difficulty getting around. Most of cat joint degeneration is cartilaginous rather than bone. My 16-year-old Manx receives her adequan once weekly and I can really tell if I’m late giving her injection. If you are looking to save money during the initial ramp up dosing, now is the time!” ~Rosie Gilbert, DVM

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$15 Rebate when you buy 6 doses of Heartgard and 6 doses of Nexgard

$35 Rebate when you buy 12 doses of Heartgard and 6 doses of Nexgard

$50 Rebate when you buy 12 doses of Heartgard and 12 doses of Nexgard