

Canine OCD (Shoulder)

Osteochondrosis Dessicans

OCD of the shoulder is the disturbance of the ossification process leading to cartilage cells not being reabsorbed and replaced by bone. Typically seen in younger dogs between 4 – 8 months old, it is more likely to affect male dogs.

Canine OCD is thought to be a polygenic, hereditary and developmental abnormal bone development disease. A particular issue with shoulder OCD is that it can be bilateral (both limbs) and tenosynovitis may occur. These issues can increase the probability of additional compensatory muscle pain. Surgery is usually recommended.

Post-surgery, physiotherapy will play an integral part in the rehabilitation and long term management of the shoulder joint and supporting ligaments, muscles and tendons.

Every dog is different, so the actual treatment plan will be tailored to your dog and its particular condition.



Benefits of Physiotherapy Treatments:

- Control pain, inflammation following surgery
- Improve joint range-of-movement
- Restoration of an even front-end weight distribution
- Reduce progression of osteoarthritis

Canine OCD

Complementary Physiotherapy Post-surgery Treatments

Secondary Muscle Pain and Tension

Injured Area	Treatment Outline
Neck	LASER treatment using multi-frequency pulse MKW LASER 'comb' will help to relieve neck muscular tension . The MKW system reduces the reflection of the dog's coat which is particularly important in the neck area, where many dogs have extra hair. LASER treatment can be complemented by massage.
Opposite Limb	With a shoulder problem, the opposite limb (and corresponding muscles of the upper and lower arm) will incur more weight-bearing than normal. This will induce extra strains and stresses and can result in increased tension in this contralateral limb. These large muscle groups can be effectively treated with MKW LASER to reduce pain / inflammation. Additionally massage and stretching aids the reduction of tension and restores flexibility. These sessions can be complemented with home treatments of NMES or PEMF.
Muscle Atrophy	If a limb is not used due to lameness / pain, then muscle wastage (atrophy) occurs. This is treated using manual therapy such as massage, or by NMES electrostimulation . The latter is effective in situations where swelling or pain is particularly acute, for example following surgery.
Thoracolumbar and Lumbosacral Junctions	Similar to the opposite limb, the spine can be subjected to compensatory stresses due to uneven weight loading. In particular the areas of the upper and lower back can become sore. Typical symptoms (of a sore back) include misalignment of vertebrae, difficulty in walking, being more sluggish than normal or even struggling to get up from laying down. MKW LASER treatments will reduce tension in even the deepest joints, ligaments and muscles of the spine.

Online Exercise Programs

Post-surgery, rehabilitation exercises have been proven to soothe aches / pains and improve joint range-of-motion. Manual therapy techniques include the mobilization and manipulation of joints and associated soft tissues. At SmartPaws we offer a unique program of online rehabilitation which have been designed by leading experts at the University of the Tennessee, the world leading authority of animal physiotherapy. This will allow you to take an active role in your dog's recuperation. <http://goo.gl/HQyTte>

Hiring Units

NMES and PEMF are suitable for home use and it is possible to hire these machine. For more details and pricing please visit <http://goo.gl/JuiMdZ>.

Note: Symptoms may worsen slightly after initial treatments due to the initiation of the healing process and is perfectly normal. Information given is for reference purposes and is not indicative of any particular treatment or outcome. Before any advice, treatment or consultation is entered into, you must agree to our terms and conditions of practice. Hiring an electrotherapy unit will require a refundable deposit.