Surgical Outcome for Acute Thoracolumbar Hansen Type I with Loss of Deep Pain Perception in Dogs: 28 Cases (2003-2007)

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Twenty eight dogs of thoracolumbar intervertebral disc extrusion with loss of deep pain perception that underwent dorsal laminectomy or hemilaminectomy between January 2003 and April 2007 were reviewed. Signalments, duration, spinal cord compression rates, and lesion location were assessed from the medical records. Spinal cord compression rates were measured using computed tomography or magnetic resonance imaging. Clinical outcome were determined through follow-up. Thirteen dogs(46.4%) were performed dorsal laminectomy and 15 dogs(53.6) hemilaminectomy. Ten dogs(35.7%)were performed surgery within 24 hours after onset of paralytic signs and 9 dogs(32.1%)within 48 hours and 9 dogs(32.1%) after 48 hours. Treatment success was determined by return of deep pain perception within 1 month after surgery. The success rate was 70.0%(7/10) for surgery before 24 hours after onset of signs, 44.4%(4/9) within 48 hours and 33.3%(3/9) after 48 hours. All dogs which recovered to walk after surgery had regained deep pain perception within 4 weeks after surgery. However persistent paraplegia(1-4 months) were observed in the dogs without deep pain perception within 4 weeks. It was suggested that the duration until the surgery after onset of paralytic signs might be important factor for the recovery of limb function.

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