

Outcome of Medical and Surgical Treatment in Dogs with Cervical Intervertebral Disk Disease: 72 cases (2005–2009)

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Signalment: Medical records of dogs presented with cervical intervertebral disk disease at the Veterinary medical Teaching Hospital of Seoul National University from June 2005 to March 2009 were reviewed.

Results: The predominant dog breeds were the Dachshund (n=11, 15%), Shih Tzu (n=11, 15%) and Yorkshire terrier (n=10, 14%) among 12 breeds total. There were 41 (57%) males and 31 (43%) females. The mean age was 8.1 ± 2.8 years. The average of body weight was 5.97 ± 3.25 kg. The second (C₂) to third (C₃) cervical intervertebral disk space (25.7%) was affected most often. The second most commonly affected intervertebral disk space was fifth (C₅) to sixth (C₆) cervical intervertebral disk space (22.8%). Overall, 18 dogs were treated surgically and 54 were treated medically. After 7 days, 18 (100%) surgically treated dogs were improved and 24 (44.4%) medically treated dogs were improved and 30 (55.6%) were unchanged. After 6 months, 18 (100%) surgically treated dogs were improved and 32 (59.3%) medically treated dogs were improved 13 (24%) were unchanged and 9 (16.7%) were recurrent.

Clinical relevance: Surgical treatment in dogs with cervical intervertebral disk disease offers a higher chance of clinical improvement and rapid amelioration compared with medical treatment.

Key words: Cervical disk disease, surgical treatment, medical treatment, dog

This was supported by Seoul national university 2009.

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