

CASE STUDY

Spondylosis

GARY CLEMONS DVM MILFORD ANIMAL HOSPITAL

K-LASER[™] USA

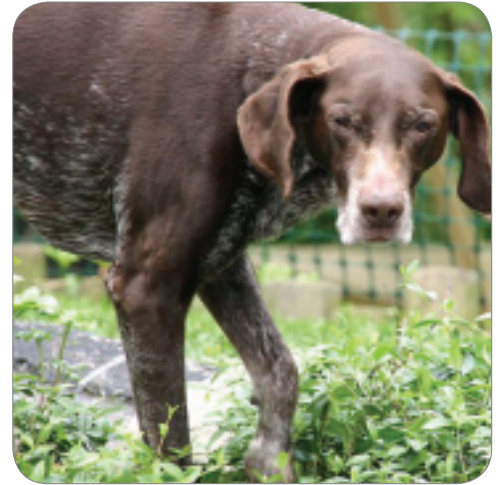
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Louie McClain is a twelve-year-old German Shorthaired Pointer. Louie had some mild proprioception deficits on May 12, 2008. Radiographs showed spondylosis at T12-13, L6-7, and L7-S1. On Jan. 3, 2009, Louie was presented after he had fallen off the owner's bed and couldn't stand. Both rear legs were flaccid and he had a very diminished deep pain response. The owners were very upset and thought maybe the time had come that Louie would have to be put to sleep. I discussed treatment with the K-Laser and gave them a very guarded prognosis. The owners wanted to give him one last chance, knowing the prognosis was not very good. I dispensed Tramadol 50 mg. 1 ½ tablets every 12 hrs. #30. We started the laser treatments once I explained the procedure. We used the pre-set C4-Back protocol technique and treated L3 through the sacral area. We did two C4-Back setting each treatment. We treated Louie on Jan. 3. His second treatment was on Jan 5 and Louie was pulling himself up on his rear legs. His third treatment was on Jan. 7 and Louie was walking very wobbly. His fourth treatment was on Jan. 9 and he was doing much better. Mrs. McClain called on Jan. 10 to thank me for suggesting the K-Laser treatment and she said Louie was walking like his "old self". The McClain's didn't come in until Jan. 19 for his fifth treatment because Louie was doing so well. They came in Feb. 27 for his last treatment. His originally scheduled treatments were supposed to be three the first week, two the second week and one the last week. Mrs. McClain called on April 20 and said Louie was doing "wonderfully well".



Due to Louie's age his owners were reluctant to a more extensive work-up or treatment. The treatment with the K-laser gave them the opportunity to do a relatively inexpensive treatment with outstanding results.



Pet Owner Comments

Here are the pictures of Louie that I promised! He is doing so well - he's like a new dog. We are back to taking walks every morning, and he has absolutely no problems being out for 45 minutes or so.

We were so sure when we brought him in the winter that he was going to have to be put to sleep - I am so happy you suggested the laser treatment. I can't remember if you wanted me to quickly chronicle how he progressed, but I'll give you a quick synopsis. In the fall, Louie's back legs deteriorated pretty quickly. Just before Christmas, his legs pretty much gave out, and he could not walk at all. He couldn't even get up, and we had to carry him outside to go to the bathroom. It was very sad, and I felt like it would have been cruel to let him continue like that. We also considered getting the doggy wheel chairs/carts.

When you suggested we try the laser treatment, I was hopeful but also a little doubtful. But he showed improvement right away. Within a couple of days he was at least able to stand up on his own - we still had to help him outside to potty. He gradually kept improving after each treatment. He had also lost a lot of strength from atrophy, I assume, but he slowly but surely got his strength back. At first he was afraid to try the stairs, but we kept encouraging him and supporting his bottom! And now he navigates the stairs and butts the other dogs out of the way. So long story short - after the last treatment, he was still a little weak, but over the past two months, we have just kept him moving and now he is pretty much back to my old fart dog! :) He takes off running after squirrels like he thinks he's 4, he wants to chase deer, and he pulls at the leash. I still keep him restrained somewhat as I am always afraid he will hit a hole and go down, but I do let him have his way for a few minutes each day so he can stretch and run. He is just so happy! About the only thing I see that still causes him any problem is when he tries to lift his leg on a tree. He can't quite support his full weight on one leg - but he compensates pretty well. Also - his spine just by his hips appears to be slightly curved upward - but that doesn't seem to bother him or anything.

Thanks so much for taking an interest in his case. I imagine he'll continue to get stronger now that the warm weather is here and he wants to go out constantly.

Thanks again for all your help!! **Mary Jo McClain**