

Fulham Gardens
Black Forest
Unley
Veterinary Surgeries

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Lucy - An Amazing Case

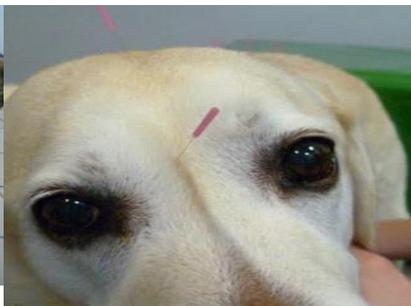
As early as 4 years of age Lucy started showing signs of pain in her spine. She was examined by a vet and dispensed a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory and pain relief medication which seemed to help her at that time. A couple of years later, Lucy presented to Adelaide Animal Emergency Centre with again, a very painful back and was put on the same medications to control her pain. X-rays were taken as a measure to assess her spine, it was found she had a narrowed inter-vertebral space. She was then referred to a veterinary neurologist who performed a Magnetic Resonance Imaging test (MRI) to accurately assess her spine. With this test Lucy was then diagnosed with an inter-vertebral disc disease which was leading to a degree of compression of her spinal cord.

With strict rest and the non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medication, Lucy improved well. She was also advised to improve her body condition score by losing weight. This reduced extra stress on her spine and other joints. The following 2 years, Lucy had only one episode of severe back pain which was treated in the same way.

When she was 9 years old, Lucy was presented to our veterinary surgery with a history of having difficulties jumping up on the lounge and on the bed. The pain on her back was again identified and associated with the problem presented by her owner. From this point, Lucy's owner was recommended to have an acupuncture session and see how she would respond to it. At that time, Dr Michelle White was our acupuncture veterinarian. Lucy then had her first acupuncture treatment in April 2014 showing a good response. She then had weekly sessions completing a total of four sessions; at this point Lucy was already pain free and back to her normal self. She had been playing and bouncing around much happier. Lucy then reduced her acupuncture sessions to once every three weeks.

Since then, Lucy has been showing an amazing response to her acupuncture treatment and has only occasionally required tablets for pain.

This case is one of many of our patients that are using acupuncture as an alternative treatment for osteoarthritis. Consequently, there is less need for medications and therefore no side effects.



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