Ângela Martins, J Vet Sci Med Diagn 2016, 5:5(Suppl)
http://dx.doi.org/10.4172/2325-9590.C1.008

Functional neurorehabilitation in dogs with cervical neurologic lesion

Ângela Martins
Lusófona University, Portugal

Neurologic lesions in dogs may have countless causes and can occur, for example, in cervical region. Two different motor systems can be affected and, either one, can seriously compromise the animal's autonomy. In both cases, functional neurorehabilitation has been included in these cases treatment plan. In the present master's dissertation, we aimed to evaluate how the success in the rehabilitation of these animals can be influenced by the dog's characteristics, the disease, the type of treatment and the time elapsed between the initial lesion and the start of the functional neurorehabilitation. A clinical study was performed with 22 dogs, were diagnosed cervical neurologic lesion. Conservative or surgical treatment was performed and the dogs were subjected to a functional neurorehabilitation protocol, elaborated at the Centro de Reabilitação Animal da Arrábida, where the type of lesion, patient characteristics, and deficits presented at the entrance and exit from the center and time elapsed between the lesion and the entrance and the exit of the center were evaluated. There were no significant differences between the affected motor systems and the deficits presented or recovery time. Still, the type of treatment was related with etiology, where, generally, congenital and traumatic cases have been submitted to conservative treatment, while surgical treatment was mostly performed in degenerative and multifactorial cases. In concerning to deficits at the entrance of the center and the type of treatment, surgical management was mostly applied in non-ambulatory tetraparesic patients, while conservative management was mostly performed in tetraplegic dogs or with other neurologic deficits. We conclude that functional neurorehabilitation had a primary role in this patient's recovery, allowing 72.8% returning to functionality and regain autonomy, avoiding a more radical outcome.

Biography

Ângela Martins is the Clinical Director of the Arrabida Veterinary Hospital and of the 1st Functional Animal Rehabilitation Center–CRAA. She is working as a Professor at Lusofona University, on the discipline: Physical Medicine and Animal Rehabilitation, and Guest Professor on the same topic at the Technical University of Lisbon. She has completed her degree in Veterinary Medicine in 1991 and Post-graduated in Emergencies, Orthopedic and Neurology, at University Lusofona. She wrote few articles on Functional Neuro-Rehabilitation. She is a member of AARV–IAVRPT. She has completed several courses like CCRP in 2012 from University of Tennessee, ESAVS-Rehabilitation and Physiotherapy of Small Animals in 2010 and Course of Traumatology Orthopedic Rehabilitation in 2012.

vetarrabida.lda@gmail.com

Notes: