How I manage elbow disease

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The challenge of the canine elbow

• localization: clinical examination
• identification: x-rays, CT, arthroscopy
• treatment decision: x-rays, CT, arthroscopy + clinical examination (incl. signalement, history)
• surgical vs. conservative?
  → small joint space, large fragments
  → results?
• other surgeries (osteotomy)

Elbow disease: terminology

Ununited anconal process
Flexor enthesisopathy
Incomplete ossification humeral condyle
Osteochondritis dissecans
Medial coronoid disease
Medial compartment erosion

Incomplete ossification of the humeral condyle

Treatment

• conservative?
• compression screw?

Elbow dysplasia

Ununited anconal process
Osteochondritis dissecans
Medial coronoid disease
Medial compartment erosion
Ununited anconeal process

Osteochondritis dissecans

Considerations:
- OATS
- Micropicking
- Long term FU

Medial coronoid disease

Coronoid lesions: terminology
- FCP = Fragmented coronoid process
- MCD = Medial coronoid disease
- Medial compartment syndrome/disease/erosion

Equipment & instrumentation
Medial approach

Hand instruments: 1-3 mm

comparison

Comparison
Labrador, 7 months + 5 years later

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German shepherd, 8 months lame during 5 months

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Postop 2 years later

Proximal dynamic osteotomy of the ulna

→ better results??

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Hypothesis

Fissure of the medial coronoid process
• heals without fragment removal
• less osteoarthritis
with a proximal ulnar osteotomy
Results after 3 months
- +/- lameness
- 5 good callus
- 2 delayed union
- 1 non-union

Results
- 4 dogs did not improve → 2nd arthroscopy: 4.5 / 5.5 / 7 / 8 months after ulnotomy

Long term results after 1-4 years
- good to excellent lameness score
- elbows mild decreased ROM, mild distension
- increase of OA in 6 dogs, 2 remained 0

Bordeaux dog, 8 months →
Proximal dynamic ulnar osteotomy

PAUL: proximal abducting ulnar osteotomy (Kyon)

Staffordshire, 4 y
- right frontleg lame > 1y
- toe problem?
- had already elbow arthroscopy
- flexion test toes & elbow: negative
Scintigraphy

Clinical case

- Cocker spaniel, 3 y
- lameness since 4 months

Labrador, 3.5 y
- recent lameness since new puppy

Erosion medial compartment
Arthroscopy workshop, Ghent University
Febr. 2-3 (basic) en 9-10 (continued) 2018

Thank you for your attention!

Small Animal Arthroscopy Wet labs 2018
Basic course: 2-3 February 2018
Continuing course: 9-10 February 2018
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