

Case 010505-02: One Year Old Warmblood Filly Shoulder Osteochondrosis Dissecans

On October 22, 2004, a one-year-old Warmblood filly was presented with a grade 2/5 left front lameness. The injury occurred two weeks prior to presentation during a training session. The attending clinician performed regional nerve and intra-articular blocks with carbocaine to isolate the lameness to the shoulder. Ultrasound revealed mild roughening of the median tubercle of the humeral tuberosity and significantly increased amount of fluid in the bicipital bursa of the left shoulder. On radiographs there were no bony changes noted. At this time, the decision was made to inject the bursa with 2 mls of Hylartin-V, 5 mg of Kenalog and 60 mg of depomedrol; in addition, stall rest was prescribed.

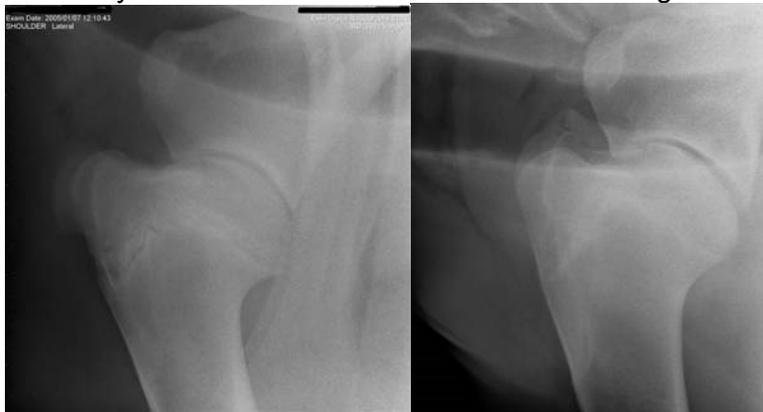
On December 30, 2004, the Warmblood filly was reevaluated for a persistence of the same lameness. The attending veterinarian determined that arthroscopy combined with stem cell therapy was the best choice at this time to facilitate healing. On January 4, 2005, 13.68 grams of subcutaneous adipose tissue was collected from just lateral to the tail head and submitted for recovery of regenerative cells. On January 6, 2005, arthroscopy was performed to evaluate the joint and to debride the lateral glenoid and humeral head OCD lesions. The OCD lesions involved approximately 1/3 of the mid-lateral aspects of the humeral head and the glenoid; they did not involve the major weight bearing surface of either structure and the remainder of the joint appeared in excellent condition. After debridement and lavage, 2 mls of regenerative cells (8.7 million total cell count) were instilled into the joint at the site of debridement. The prognosis for returning to prior level of performance was guarded to good with a 65% chance of long term athletic soundness.

On July, 2005, a six month post-treatment examination was performed. Left shoulder radiographs showed a flattening of the previous OCD area of the humeral head. She was still slightly lame (1/5 on left shoulder during work outs) and was started on a series of chondroprotective agents (Legend and Adequan).

One year post-injury, the filly was presented for follow-up physical examination in addition to arthroscopy and joint evaluation. She was sound on the left front and arthroscopy revealed smooth cartilage covering all of the humeral head and glenoid fossa OCD debridement areas. No further joint debridement was determined necessary, the joint was closed and the patient was maintained on oral non-steroidal therapy for three days post exam.

In June 2006, the Warmblood filly's owner reported that they had her under saddle during the prior 30 days and that she had been sound and performing well. She was awarded the "Best Young Horse" at each of her last 3 In-Hand competitions. She was entered into the International Hunter Futurity Two-Year-Old Under Saddle class in August.

Pre-Treatment
January 7, 2005



Post-Treatment
July 6, 2005