

Case 092209-02: Five year old Quarter Horse Mare Bilateral Stifle Osteoarthritis

A five year old Quarter Horse mare was presented with a chronic (8 month) history of hind limb lameness. The patient would block out sound when the stifles were injected with carbocaine. Prior therapies had included (individually or in combination): Hylartin, adequan, amikacin, and shockwave. Severe joint effusion had been noted after each treatment and on fluoroscopy no bony changes were visible in the joint. With consideration of the chronicity of the joint in combination with the owners declining to continue trying further conventional therapies such as steroid injections or surgery, the attending veterinarian elected to use regenerative cell therapy.

On September 21, 2005 a 12.91 gram sample of subcutaneous fat was removed from the lateral side of the mare's tail head and was sent for collection of regenerative cells. On September 23, 2006, one million cells were injected via sterile preparation into each stifle joint. Stall rest was prescribed and a reevaluation scheduled for two months later.

On November 23, 2005 no lameness was noted when longed and no stife joint effusion was palpated. Due to marked improvement, the rehabilitation program was expanded to include legging up.

On February 14, 2006, a final set of radiographs showed no progression of osteoarthritis and the Quarter Horse mare returned to full activity. Since that time, the mare has remained sound and the owner reports that she has regained her prior level of performance in cutting work.

Note: Images not available due to computer hard-drive failure at clinic.