

# **Evaluation of the Effects of Deramaxx® and Rehabilitation on Hindlimb Function in Lamé Juvenile Dogs with Canine Hip Dysplasia**

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## **What is the study about:**

Canine hip dysplasia (CHD) is a common cause of lameness in dogs. Clinical signs in young patients include difficulty rising after rest, exercise intolerance, intermittent or continual lameness, atrophy of the pelvic and thigh musculature, and/or a waddling gait attributed to abnormal movement of the rear limbs. Juvenile patients with lameness associated with hip dysplasia are typically first evaluated at 5 to 10 months of age. Treatment of juvenile dogs with CHD has depended on the degree of discomfort, physical and radiographic findings, and client's expectations and finances. Both conservative and surgical options are available for juvenile animals with hip pain secondary to hip dysplasia. Although early surgical intervention with triple pelvic osteotomy is considered to increase the prognosis for long-term acceptable clinical function, approximately 75% of young patients treated conservatively with nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, weight management and exercise restrictions return to acceptable clinical function with maturity.<sup>1</sup>

Rehabilitation is gaining popularity as an essential treatment component following surgical therapy,<sup>2</sup> but has not been adequately tested as a first line treatment for canine hip dysplasia. This study is designed to test the effects of Deramaxx® and rehabilitation on return to function after lameness due to canine hip dysplasia is diagnosed. Our hypothesis is that rehabilitation combined with Deramaxx® will result in improved limb function (increased peak vertical force and vertical impulse), thigh circumference and joint range of motion when compared with exercise restricted dogs.

## **Methods and Materials**

Forty immature dogs (between 6 and 24 months of age) presented with rear limb lameness caused by canine hip dysplasia will be considered for inclusion into the study. Canine hip dysplasia will be confirmed with pelvic radiographs. Dogs will receive symptomatic pain management with Deramaxx® for 10 weeks and specified home exercise at home for 6 weeks followed by resumption of normal activity. All clients will be asked to fill out periodic questionnaires concerning the dog's pain level and activity. All rehabilitation and Deramaxx related expenses will be fully reimbursed upon successful completion of the clinical trial.

## **Compensation:**

All rehabilitation and Deramaxx related expenses will be fully reimbursed upon successful completion of the clinical trial. All enrollees will also receive a \$200 credit towards future services at the University of Illinois VTH.

**Contact:** Pet owners and veterinarians can contact Kim Knap at [knap@illinois.edu](mailto:knap@illinois.edu) or 217-265-5314 to find out more about the clinical trial or to make an appointment.