

VetStem Cell Therapy Helps Golden Retriever Puppy Avoid Hip Surgery

Gemini, a Golden Retriever puppy, began experiencing mobility issues as early as 9 months old. Her owners noticed she had difficulty going up stairs, struggled to rise from sitting or lying down, and experienced intermittent lameness while walking. She also had limited range of motion accompanied by significant discomfort. Gemini was ultimately diagnosed with bilateral hip arthritis as a result of hip dysplasia.

Due to her young age, Gemini's owners were reluctant to pursue an invasive surgical procedure. Instead, her veterinarian recommended treatment with VetStem Cell Therapy. To begin the VetStem process, her veterinarian collected a sample of fat tissue from Gemini's abdomen during a minimally invasive anesthetic procedure. The fat was then shipped to the VetStem laboratory, where technicians processed it to extract and concentrate the stem and regenerative cells. Three doses of Gemini's stem cells were prepared and shipped back to her vet for injection. Approximately 48 hours after the initial fat collection, Gemini received an injection of her own stem cells into both of her arthritic hips, as well as an intravenous injection. The remaining cells were cryopreserved for potential future use.



According to her owner, Gemini showed significant improvement after her first treatment with stem cells. Her owner stated, "After her first stem cell treatment, at 10 months old, she showed significant improvement in all areas of mobility. Although her range of motion had improved, it was still not at an acceptable range, and she still showed signs of discomfort at times."

When Gemini was two years old, her owners elected to treat her again using the doses of stem cells that had been cryopreserved from the original procedure. Her owner stated, "After this second treatment, Gemini's condition significantly improved. Her range of motion is almost that of a healthy dog. Although stairs are still somewhat of an issue for her, she has no other mobility issues at this time. We are grateful to have found a non-surgical option for Gemini to improve her quality of life. It is comforting to know that this type of treatment is still available for Gemini in the future, if needed, with the banked cells we still have at VetStem. Our hopes are to avoid ever having to put her through hip replacement or any other type of orthopedic surgery."

Osteoarthritis is one of the most common diseases in dogs, and the pain associated with it can greatly reduce a dog's quality of life. Thousands of animals have been successfully treated with VetStem Cell Therapy for orthopedic conditions. According to surveys completed by pet owners and veterinarians, greater than 80% of dogs showed improved quality of life after receiving VetStem Cell Therapy for osteoarthritis. Additionally, a peer-reviewed study of dogs with chronic osteoarthritis of the hip found that treatment with stem cells reduced both pain and lameness.

Unfortunately, osteoarthritis is a degenerative condition that may continue to worsen as pets age. VetStem's unique ability to cryopreserve stem cells ensures that each pet has access to a potentially lifelong supply of their own cells for future treatments if needed. Learn more at www.vetstem.com.