Proceedings of the 15th ESVOT Congress

September 15 - 18, 2010
Bologna, Italy
Old dog FCP

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Fragmented coronoid process is well known as a development problem in young medium and large breed dogs. In the latest years, several papers and communications illustrated a similar problem in adult and old dogs. A recent study performed at the author’s university described the lesions that were found in 51 dogs older than 6 years and compared them to the lesions in young dogs. Five types of lesions could be identified on arthroscopy and CT: chondromalacia-like lesion in 2%, fissure in 27.5%, non-displaced fragment in 12%, displaced fragment in 27.5% and medial compartment erosions without coronoid fragmentation in 31%. That distribution is different than in young dogs, where a fissure was found in 23%, a non-displaced fragment in 45%, a displaced fragment in 29% and medial compartment erosions in only 3%. In an ongoing study, prognosis after treatment of FCP in adults dogs is being studied. Preliminary results of this study show that results are significantly worse in old dogs compared to young dogs: only half of the cases really improve substantially after surgery, even when the lesions are limited to a fissure or fragment without extended kissing lesions. In case of medial compartment disease, prognosis is bad. When an old dog is presented with signs of FCP, the owners should be informed about the expectations.

REFERENCES