

Application of the Saam Acupuncture Practice on Canine Intervertebral Disc Related Disease

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Abstract: A female maltese dog with hind limb paraparesis and severe back pain was treated by Pye-Jeongkyeok of the Saam acupuncture application. In radiographic examination, spinal curvature was increased toward dorsal direction at T11-L2. In addition to this intervertebral disc space was decreased at T11-12, T13-L1, and radiopacity was increased at T12-13, L1-4, L5-7 intervertebral disc spaces. In CT and MRI examination, hyper-dense material and mild pressure of spinal cord was observed at T11-12. Hyper-dense material and severe pressure of spinal cord was observed at T13-L1. After treatment by Pye-Jeongkyeok of the Saam acupuncture procedure for 7 days, all of previously noticed clinical signs were not observed. Subsequent additional 6 times of acupuncture treatment was performed for 12 weeks. Acupoint of Pye-Jeongkyeok were localized at SP-3, LU-9 Bo(tonification), LU-10, HT-8 Sa(sedation). Four months later from the first acupuncture treatment, in radiographic examination, spinal curvature was return to normal at T11-L2 and intervertebral disc space was also improved as normal at T11-12, T13-L1. In CT examination, mild hyper-dense material was not observed at T11-12 and severe hyper-dense material was almost disappeared at T13-L1. It is considered that Pye-Jeongkyeok of the Saam acupuncture method for IVDD in dogs might be effective for improvement of clinical signs and restoration of intervertebral disc. It is supposed that more studies of IVDD cases will needed to set up a standardized treatment procedure.

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