

# Lame Dog

## INSTRUCTIONS

Compose a SOAP. If necessary, refer to chapter one for instructions regarding SOAP construction. Assessment of the data, or assignment of technician evaluations, must be based upon the information and data provided. Plans should include both technician and veterinary driven interventions. It is important to recognize that the assessment and plan portion of this exercise involves more than a simple categorization of facts. Scenarios typically provide only veterinary driven interventions. Assessments and technician driven interventions must be developed by the student.

Subjective data: 2 Points

Objective data: 2 Points

Assessment: 5 Points

Plan: 6 Points

## SCENARIO

Reki, a one-year-old spayed female Labrador retriever, was presented with a history of progressive hind limb lameness. The owner reported that the dog had moved normally until approximately two months ago. She now moved with a “bunny hopping gait” and refused to jump into the bed of the pickup. In response to the lameness, the owner had given Reki aspirin for one week. The home treatment resulted in little to no improvement in the condition.

Physical examination revealed a grade 2/5 bilateral hind limb lameness which was most apparent when the dog rose from a recumbent position. Deep palpation of the hips elicited guarding / limb withdrawal behaviors and whining. There was a 20% decrease in coxofemoral joint ROM. No abnormalities were noted during palpation of the stifles or hocks. The dog weighed 85 lb. BCS was assessed at 3.5/5.

Based upon clinical findings the veterinarian requested radiographs of the coxofemoral joint. To obtain quality radiographs, the veterinarian ordered the dog to be sedated using 0.01 mg/kg IM medetomidine. The technician administered the tranquilizer and took the films.

Abnormal radiographic findings included bilaterally shallow acetabulum, short femoral necks and flattened femoral heads. The veterinarian made a diagnosis of hip dysplasia after reviewing the films. Surgical intervention was recommended. However, the client declined surgery citing cost as an issue. Thus, medical management was instituted to include a long-term prescription for carprofen 2 mg/kg PO BID, Adequan<sup>®</sup> 5 mg/kg IM once weekly for four weeks, and a recommendation for weight loss and moderate exercise. The technician dispensed the carprofen, provided instruction regarding

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Score \_\_\_\_\_ /15 Points