



New Treatment For Pain Of Bone Tumors

by Judy Colan

Dr Jennifer Mahoney a member of the Oncology Department at Angell Memorial Hospital in Boston, MA is now using intravenous pamidronate to treat dogs with bone tumors. Pamidronate is a bisphosphonate and in the same family as Boniva and Fosamax which are drugs used to treat osteoporosis in human medicine.

Osteosarcoma cells produce an extracellular matrix of osteoid and can also activate osteoclasts to cause bone destruction. Excessive osteolysis can lead to severe pain, the most common clinical sign seen with osteosarcoma.

The protocol of once monthly intravenous infusion of Pamidronate has demonstrated clinical improvement in the alleviation of pain as well as decreases in urine N-telopeptide excretion (a sensitive and specific marker of bone resorption) and increased relative primary tumor bone mineral density. In one study, 28% of dogs experienced improved clinical signs for greater than four months with a median duration of pain alleviation of 231 days. Studies have shown that bisphosphonate can reduce tumor cell invasiveness, adhesion. In humans, findings have been similar and Pamidronate use is advocated to decrease the risk of pathologic fracture.

Bisphosphonates are used to treat paraneoplastic hypercalcemia. Hypercalcemia of malignancy is associated with multiple neoplastic diseases including lymphoma, multiple myeloma and anal sac apocrine gland adenocarcinoma.

Angell Memorial reserves the use of bisphosphonates for severe cases of paraneoplastic hypercalcemia that are not responsive to other treatments.

References:

- Fan TM, Charney SC, de Lorimier LP et al. Double-blind placebo-controlled trial of adjuvant pamidronate with palliative radiotherapy and intravenous doxorubicin for canine appendicular osteosarcoma bone pain *J Vet Intern Med* 2009; (1) 152-160
- Fan TM, de Lorimier LP Charney SC, et al. Evaluation of IV pamidronate administration in 33 cancer-bearing dogs with primary or secondary bone involvement. *J Vet Intern Med* 2005 19(1): 74-80
- Fan TM, de Lorimier LP O-Dell Anderson K et al single-agent pamidronate for palliative therapy of canine appendicular osteosarcoma. *J Vet Intern Med* 2007, 21 (3):431-439

CANINE HEALTH INFORMATION CENTER

PARENT CLUB REPORTING: WEIMARANER CLUB OF AMERICA

CHIC NUMBERS ISSUED OR UPDATED: Q1 2012

Animal & Owner	Date	New / Update
RISSANA HILLWOOD'S PERFECT PITCH TO NANI CHIC 75126 AKC SR54288509 Owners: CHRISTINE GRISELL ALESSANDRA FOLZ	3/7/2012	UPDATE
RISSANA HILLWOOD'S PERFECT SHOT CHIC 78208 AKC SR54288508 Owners: ROBERT HILGENBRINK CHRIS GRISELL DONNA R. HILGENBRINK	1/13/2012	NEW
STARBUCK FERN HILL SOLAR FLARE CHIC 78499 AKC SR36538201 Owners: SALLY D. FELTNER HENRIETTA JENRETTE	1/27/2012	NEW
TIMBERDOODLE CROWN ROYAL CHIC 79048 AKC SR57314901 Owner: CAMILLE A. RICE	2/16/2012	NEW
COLSIDEX PENNYWOOD CALL TO LIBERTY CHIC 79795 AKC SR61320802 Owners: ROBERT & JACKIE CHALIFOUX CHERYL LENT JUDY COLAN	3/15/2012	NEW
TIMBERDOODLE LOW GUN CHIC 79918 AKC SR57314906 Owner: RANDY CARMONEY	3/20/2012	NEW

Illustrated Standard

The Weimaraner Illustrated Standard is available from the WCA National Office. It is not only a great tool for judges, but also a great publication for every Weim enthusiast to have on hand; to educate puppy buyers, for mentoring and for general reference.

\$10.00 each

Send payment to: WCA, PO Box 489, Wakefield, RI 02880