



UW Veterinary Care
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

WANTED

Dogs with Laryngeal Paralysis

Evaluating Activity Level of Dogs Undergoing Laryngeal Paralysis Surgery

The Study

Laryngeal paralysis is a disease that most commonly affects older (10+ year old) Labrador Retrievers and Golden Retrievers, although other breeds can be affected. The condition results in difficulty breathing due to failure of the larynx (voice box) to open normally during inspiration (breathing in). The condition can become life threatening and, in many cases, surgery is necessary to relieve the respiratory obstruction. Arytenoid lateralization surgery is currently the most common treatment for laryngeal paralysis and involves “tying back” one side of the larynx to open up the airway.

Goals

The goal of this study is to gain a better understanding of the impact of surgery on activity and quality of life of dogs with laryngeal paralysis. Measuring activity before & after surgery help to achieve this goal.

Who Qualifies

Any dog diagnosed with laryngeal paralysis that is a candidate for arytenoid lateralization surgery. Patients must be free of severe breathing difficulty that would significantly complicate the preoperative monitoring period.

What Happens

Dogs are fitted with a collar-mounted activity monitor that provides a continuous recording of their activity during the study. Activity is monitored for 14 days before surgery and 14 days after surgery. The data is compared between the two time periods to assess improvement in activity after surgery. In addition, owners complete a short survey that asks for information on their dog’s exercise level, severity of respiratory signs and perception of quality of life.

Why Participate

By participating in this study, you will be helping us better understand the benefits of surgery in dogs with laryngeal paralysis and provide the foundation for assessing future surgical and non-surgical treatments.

More Information

If you are interested in participating in this study, please contact: Dr Robb Hardie or Lindsay Brusda, CVT at generalsurgery@vetmed.wisc.edu

