

PST-VET™ PULSED SIGNAL THERAPY CASE STUDY

Thriller is a high drive male Border Collie who needs to work. Remaining idle is torture to him. He wants to be doing something and the faster he can do it, the better. He has earned a breed championship, and obedience championship and got oh so close to an agility championship when he became hurt. The year of 2004, the injuries began. Periodically Thriller would come up lame after running agility. It was slight, always the right front, but would disappear as quickly as it appeared. Diagnosing it was difficult until it got much worse. A number of vets I took him to could not find anything wrong. Finally it became chronic enough I sought out Dr. John Sherman of Vethab Rehabilitation in Raleigh, NC who specializes in diagnosing and treating lameness in dogs. www.vethab.com Dr. Sherman diagnosed the problem was in his toe. Over the course of the next two years, Thriller would injure 4 different front toes on both front feet. This was just the beginning...

We tried many treatments for these toe injuries – some worked, some didn't. The last toe he injured became the most difficult to treat and did not respond to any of the previous therapies we tried including NSAIDS, nutritional supplements, ice, rest, injections, laser, and a brace. None of them worked and he continued to limp. We discussed toe amputation and set a date for the surgery.

In the meantime, we tried a new therapy that had just arrived at the clinic called Pulsed Signal Therapy (PST). It involved 9 thirty minute sessions of the affected area in this machine on nine consecutive days and yet he still continued to limp after all 9 treatments had been completed. The toe amputation was looking more and more likely as 2 and 3 weeks post PST treatment went by and he still continued to limp. Then suddenly, around week 5 and 6 post PST treatment – he stopped limping. We were guardedly optimistic. Another week went by and he was still not limping.

He was allowed some freedom off lead for the first time in many, many months. The first few days he still looked

great – no limping. Then, it started again. Back to the vet – toe was doing well, but abrasions on his pads were causing him to limp. The confined life for so long had made his pads very soft. Now that he had started to run again they were extremely vulnerable to rocks, gravel, and hard stubbly ground and so Thriller was fitted with some shoes. He in fact went through about 4 different pairs of shoes as he wore them out quickly. But what a happy dog – he was allowed to run again! In the meantime, I painted his feet

everyday with a pad toughener, sometimes wrapped them if there was an open sore, strapped on his shoes, and watched him very carefully.

I began to think perhaps there was finally hope for Thriller to make a full recovery but running free outside was too hazardous to his feet. It was then March 2006 and my goal was to have him back at trials by the end of April. Keeping him in shape was critical to success so I purchased a treadmill, worked him up to 2 miles a day, and continued to treat his pads daily so he could also eventually run outdoors on grass and natural surfaces.

April arrived and 3 days before the trials he came up lame. Again, it was pad abrasions – not the toe. I wrapped his feet, treated them as best I could, and confined him to the house for the rest of the week.

He made it through the trials without any sign of lameness. I continued to trial him several more months until he completed his agility championship in Sept of 2006.

So what at times seemed like a totally impossible journey that we would never complete, finally came to a close. Many, many injuries later and a very close relationship with quite a few veterinarians, Thriller became just the 3rd Border Collie in history to earn a breed Championship, Obedience Championship, Agility Championship, and hold a herding title. My dog has an incredible heart, an irrepressible spirit to keep going, and a total love of life for whatever it has to offer. He is a clown, an amazing athlete, a crowd pleaser, and a beautiful dog all rolled in one. The PST therapy was clearly the catalyst that helped that last toe finally heal.

Mary Whorton – Owner



Thriller AFTER the PST Therapy