

The Cutting Edge

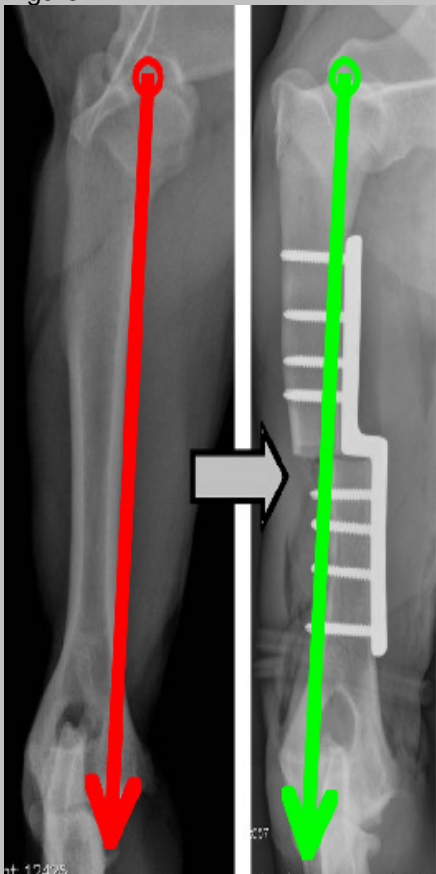
Annapolis

Joseph M. Prostredny, DVM, MS, DACVS
Krista L. Evans, DVM, DACVS
Daren M. Roa, DVM, DACVS
Anne C. Minihan, DVM, DACVS

Towson

F. Robert Weeren, DVM, MS, DACVS
Sean P. Kennedy, DVM, DACVS
Matthew M. Keats, DVM, DACVS

Figure 1



Sliding Humeral Osteotomy New Hope for Dogs with Elbow Dysplasia

Chesapeake Veterinary Surgical Specialists is pleased to announce that we are now offering the Sliding Humeral Osteotomy (**SHO**) for treatment of elbow dysplasia in dogs.

The sliding humeral osteotomy is based on similar procedures in humans that are performed for stifle osteoarthritis. In dogs suffering from elbow dysplasia (including fragmented medial coronoid processes, osteochondritis dissecans, and other causes of incongruency) the majority of the cartilage wear and osteoarthritis develops in the medial compartment of the joint. Unfortunately, the medial side of the elbow is the side of the joint that bears the majority of the weight in dogs. If the majority of the weight bearing force can be shifted to the lateral side of the joint, significant pain relief, as well as healing of the damaged cartilage, can occur.

The SHO is the result of almost 10 years of research during which time the surgery has been refined to a rapid and accurate procedure. In the past 3 years, the surgery has been performed in over 70 dogs. The majority of these dogs showed significant improvement in comfort and lameness scores.

The SHO is performed through a medial approach. A mid humeral osteotomy is performed and a specially designed bone plate is used to move and fixate the bone in the proper position. The procedure transposes the proximal medial cortex of the humerus over the distolateral cortex, shifting the majority of the weight bearing force to the lateral side of the elbow (figure 1).

Any dog with pain from medial compartment disease of the elbow is a candidate for the SHO procedure. Dogs with severe cartilage damage throughout the elbow will not benefit from this procedure and may be better candidates for elbow replacement*.

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Board certified surgical specialists providing the very latest surgical treatments in:

• orthopedics • soft tissue surgery • neurosurgery • radiosurgery • reconstructive surgery • oncological surgery • arthroscopy • laparoscopy

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Sliding Humeral Osteotomy – New Hope for Dogs with Elbow Dysplasia

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The sliding humeral osteotomy has been released to a limited number of surgeons for clinical use. Thus far, only three training courses have been held and both Dr. Prostredny and Dr. Roa have been certified to perform this procedure. We are now performing the SHO in our Annapolis office. We hope to be offering the SHO at our Towson office within the next year.

For more information on this procedure please contact Dr. Roa or Dr. Prostredny at our Annapolis office.

*Drs. Prostredny, Weeren, and Roa recently completed the training course for the new Tate Elbow Replacement for dogs. We hope to be offering this elbow replacement in the next few months. More information will be provided in an upcoming newsletter.



CHESAPEAKE VETERINARY
SURGICAL SPECIALISTS

808 Bestgate Rd., Annapolis, MD 21401
410.224.0121

1209 Cromwell Bridge Rd., Towson, MD 21286
410.828.0911

www.cvssvets.com
