

Otis Gets His Wag Back!

Dog with bone cancer jumps for joy over new treatment that made him pain-free after one dose!



Otis, the golden retriever, was in his golden years when bone cancer pain threatened to shorten his life. As a participant in a clinical trial aimed at pet dogs, he was given a single treatment with a pain therapy called SP-SAP that was developed by Advanced Targeting Systems (ATS).

The story of Otis's relief from cancer pain is well documented in a video accessible at www.ATSBio.com/vet. "Otis Gets His Wag Back" shows Otis before treatment and after. It is clear from Otis's body language and gait there is change for the better, while the tumor has doubled in size.

Bone cancer at advanced stages often leads to animals being euthanized for pain-related issues. There are better options. Pain shouldn't be a life-threatening disease for your pet. SP-SAP prevents chronic pain signals from reaching the brain. The pet's brain no longer knows it is in pain from the cancer, but can still feel normal acute pain that can be treated with traditional pain.

A study sponsored by ATS has promising results that were published in the November 2013 issue of the journal *Anesthesiology*. Pet dogs receiving SP-SAP displayed significantly less pain than dogs receiving traditional pain care, with no visible side effects and an improved quality of life.

With the hope of translating these results to humans, a clinical trial testing SP-SAP on terminal cancer patients has begun. Early results are promising, but additional patients are needed. See <http://clinicaltrials.gov/show/NCT02036281> for more information.

SP-SAP Facts:

- Permanent relief from cancer pain
- Single injectable dose
- Successfully tested in dogs
- In human clinical trials

For more information, contact Brian Russell, Vice President of Business Development (brian@targetedtoxins.com).

SP-SAP for Treatment of Cancer Pain

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regimen adjusted. This is compared to just 24 percent of the dogs (8) needing adjustment to pain relief regimen in the group that received SP-SAP treatment. This was a statistically significant difference.

Other study results included a 6 percent increase in pain severity scores for dogs in the control group, while the dogs in the SP-SAP group had no change in pain severity score. In addition, the dogs in the control group had an 8 percent increase in how pain interferes with their typical activities, while the SP-SAP dogs had a 5 percent improvement in this pain impact score. Finally, one dog in the control group responded with lessened lameness, while 6 dogs in the SP-SAP group became less lame. While these secondary study results were not statistically significant because they were only assessed two weeks after injection, they are promising.

"The overriding goal of this research is to identify breakthroughs in managing chronic pain in both people and dogs by taking advantage of the fact that pets, through the course of their natural lives, develop many of the same medical conditions causing chronic pain that develop in people," said Dr. Brown. "Additionally we can 'measure' this pain in companion animals like we do in people, quantifying severity and impact on routine activities, mobility and sleep."

The positive pain relieving effect that SP-SAP had was significant, according to the study. It both provides promising data for canine patients suffering from cancer and encourages further research into the use of SP-SAP for chronic pain control in humans.