

May 7, 2011

Laser Treatment – Performed by Goldenview Vet

Goldenview Vet performed a 2 week program of laser treatments (every other day) on our 10 year old yellow lab, Chief. Although Chief is not really an elderly dog he has had multiple issues with his knees and elbows since a very early age including surgery on his right elbow when he was only a year old. Chief has suffered from dysplasia pain for most of his adult life. The past few years he has also developed severe arthritis. His medications include Rimadyl and Tramadol for pain (4 pills a day). Before the laser treatment Chief could barely walk 100 yards; he limped very badly, was mostly sedentary, and was in enough constant and severe pain that we seriously discussed options with Dr. Alhgrim for ending his life with dignity.

We first noticed a significant improvement in his right front leg limp about a week after the laser treatments began. We also noticed a dramatic change in his personality.... He would trot quickly to the door of Goldenview Vet when we brought him, head right to the bed where the laser treatment was performed, and lie down thumping his tail in anticipation. He literally wagged his tail throughout the entire 30-40 minutes of treatment. At home he began to get up when we arrived home at the end of the day and began to participate in our daily routine.

Now that the intense laser treatments have finished we continue to see marked changes to Chief's personality that tell us he is clearly experiencing much less pain. His eyes are wider and brighter, he can go for short walks now, and he is playful. Chief has actually tried to (gently) engage our other dog in a tugging game, something he has not done for years. He now follows us around the house, looking for cuddles and pets, and wants to help with everything. In terms of personality Chief is a different dog. He still walks very slowly and still has a limp but it is clear he is 'feeling' better. We have cut back to 3 Tramadol pain pills every other day and so far he appears to be handling this well.

We would highly recommend laser treatments to other canine patients with severe joint problems. We will continue the monthly maintenance laser program at Goldenview Vet.

Greg, Joan and CHIEF ✦

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J Alder", written in a cursive style.