Epidural anesthesia effectiveness in dogs

Purpose and Brief Explanation of Study:

Perfusion Index (PI) monitoring is a cutting edge technology used to determine vascular tone. In humans, PI increases after the vasodilation that occurs following epidural injection of local anesthetics.

Objective of the trial:

The objective is to evaluate PI as a non-invasive method to determine epidural anesthesia onset and effectiveness in dogs.

What qualifies my dog for enrollment in this trial?

Healthy dogs, male or female, undergoing knee surgery, weighing 20-40 kg, any breed, older than 1 year of age.

What does enrolling my dog in this clinical trial involve?

Dogs will be anesthetized and epidural injections will be performed. Perfusion index will be recorded before and thereafter. We expect the PI will increase after epidural anesthesia due to changes in vascular tone. The results of this study will allow us to better predict if an epidural anesthesia is effective before surgery starts.

Client Compensation

Clients participating in this study will be given a one-time credit of $250 that can be applied towards the costs associated with the surgical or medical management of your dog’s condition at The Ohio State University Veterinary Medical Center. Additionally, you will not have to pay for the epidural anesthesia fee ($50). If you decide to withdraw your dog from the study prior to study completion, this credit will not be applied to your account. However, if your dog is removed from the study by one of the study investigators due to medical concerns as it is believed to be in the best interest of your dog, then you will still receive the credit.

Client Contact

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If you believe your pet may be eligible to enter this study, please fill out a pre-screening questionnaire.