Canine: Back Pain

Dachshund (MC)
Four-years-old

WellVu Thermal Imaging

Presentation

Pet Owner	Reported the patient was sensitive to petting on the back.
Veterinarian	Painful resistance to PROM within the cervical region and palpable pain within the lumbar paravertebral musculature.

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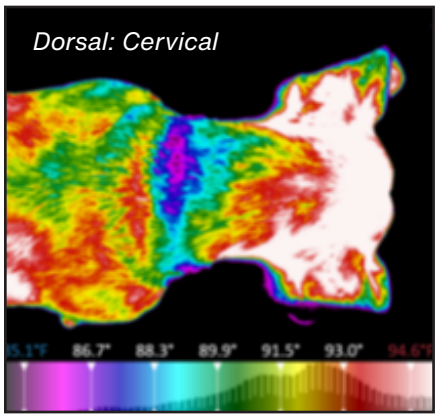
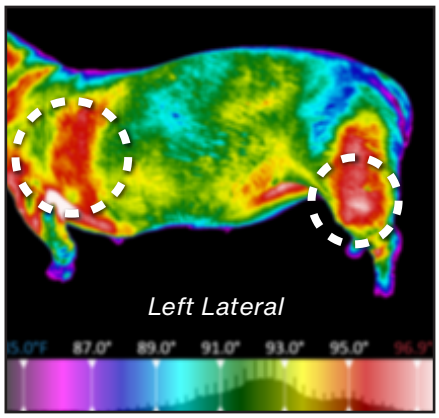
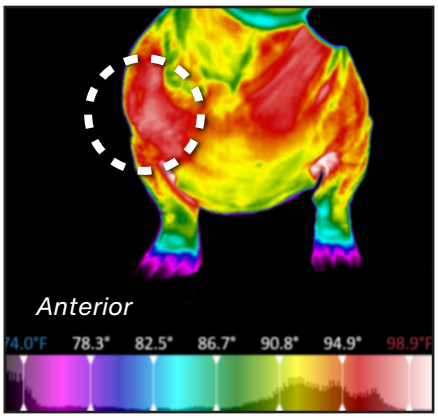
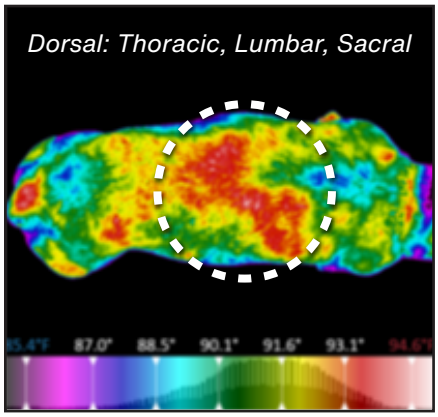
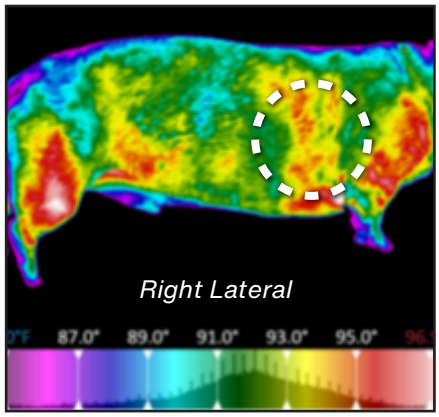
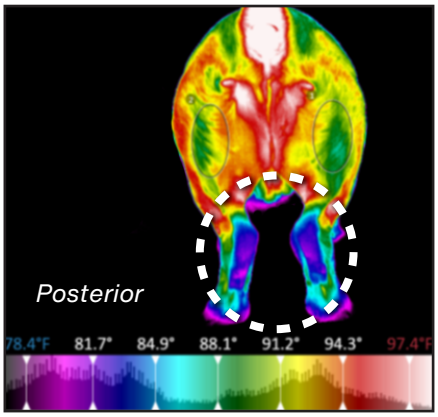












	Hypothermia (Cold)	Hyperthermia (Hot)
Finding	Areas of asymmetrical, bilateral hypothermia from C2-6 , T2-5&6, L3-L5. (Both dorsal views)	Areas of asymmetrical hyperthermia surrounding both shoulder joints and the surrounding musculature extending into the chest. (Right, Left Lateral, and AP view of chest)
Impression	Consistent with irritation of the spinal nerves originating from C2-6. And T2-5&6., L3 – S1&2.	Possible correlation to compensatory weight-bearing and strain due to pain originating from the cervical and lumbar areas.
Finding	Asymmetrical, bilateral hypothermia areas are present within the gluteal musculature, distal forelimbs, and distal hind limbs. (Left and Right Lateral views; AP and PA views)	Areas of hyperthermia within musculature from ~T8-L1&2. Extending distally to the ribcage on the right and another extension distally just behind the ribcage on the left. (Dorsal View: Thoracic, Lumbar, and Sacral Regions)
Impression	Consistent with possible irritation of the spinal nerves originating from L3 – S1&2, C6&7, L6&7 – S1&2.	Increased blood flow to this musculature consistent with compensatory strain and possible inconsistent innervation.
Finding		Areas of asymmetrical bilateral hyperthermia involving the stifle joint and the surrounding soft tissue structures. (Left and Right Lateral views)
Impression		Possible correlation to compensatory weight-bearing and strain due to pain originating from the lumbar spine.

Intervention Based on Findings

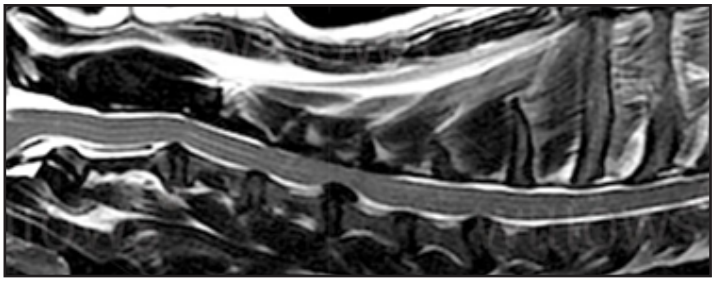
Further Imaging

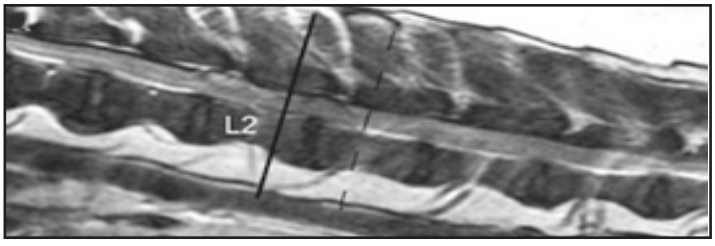
- MRI: Significant cord compression at C2&3, C3&4, and L4-5

Treatment Plan

Goal: Avoid Surgery

- Pharmaceutical and photoceutical approach (PBMT) to pain management
- Nutraceuticals
- Physical therapy to improve core strength and joint stability
- Proprioception training
- Acupuncture





Question **Who benefited more: the Patient or the Practice?**

Better Care for Pets: Empowering Owners, Optimizing Outcomes

Patient Benefits

- IRTI provided a clear understanding of the need for the MRI study.
- Baseline information for monitoring the patient's response to the treatment plan.
- The IRT images provided a roadmap for applying PBMT in the clinic and home.
- Through compliance and the adoption of a proactive treatment path, the client was able to avoid costly surgical procedures.

If untreated, probable long-term implications:

Service	Savings
Surgery	$8,000
Pain Pharmaceuticals (NSAIDs)	$800
Rehab	$2,500
Total	$11,300

Practice Benefits

- Information the client could easily understand, which eased their concerns about complying with the MRI recommendation.
- Client understanding of the long-term consequences of this condition.
- Identification of precise targets (previously known and unknown) for physical and modality-based therapy.
- Baseline images and temperature analysis are used to monitor response to therapy with subsequent thermal images.
- Helps to identify and inform the client of the full chain-of-care events to recovery.

Service	Revenue
IRTI exam	$25
MRI study	$3,200
Rehabilitation sessions	$740
PBMT sessions	$780
Acupuncture sessions	$260
Pharmaceuticals	$86
IRTI rechecks	$125
At-home rental laser	$450
Total	$5,666

Take-Aways

Early detection: a single $25 screening exam led to...

1. Understanding the need for a proactive treatment plan ($5,666.00 for the practice)
2. To prevent expensive surgical outcomes (up to ~$12,000.00) and long-term chronic issues for the patient

Multi Radiance Veterinary

WellVu Thermal Imaging

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