

Komodo Dragon Taronga Zoo

From: Matthew Jones

Sent: Monday, 18 March 2019 4:44 PM

To: 'Larry Vogelnest' <LVogelnest@zoo.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Laser therapy on a Komodo Dragon

Hi Larry,

I was going to provide the summary you previously provided, along with some photos, as per below and attached.

Komodo dragon

6-year old, 41kg, male. On the 27 October 2017 he presented with mild intermittent proprioceptive deficit in the right fore limb (drags and knuckles). There were no other abnormalities on physical examination, he is in good body condition and feeds well and regularly. Blood work is normal. A CT and MRI scan did not reveal any abnormalities. There was no response to a short course of carprofen. The deficit progressed to be more frequent and severe where he often stood with his digits knuckled over. A 5 day course of prednisolone made no apparent improvement. Based on mention of the use of laser therapy in a komodo dragon in a book chapter we elected to give it a try. We used the attached protocol. He had 2 courses 4 weeks apart. There was a marked improvement and within 3 weeks of the last treatment was normal and remains so.

Is it OK if I provide this to Multi Radiance?

Should they wish to create any educational pieces from this, I can ensure they will send any materials to yourself and myself for approval before proceeding.

Regards,

Matthew





LASER TREATMENT PROTOCOL FOR KOMODO DRAGON 'NAGA'

For analgesic unwind:

- Setting - 1000Hz, 5min
- Starting at the base of the skull, slowly scan at 1cm/sec along the spine, just to one side until you reach his last rib. The loop back to his skull scanning along the other side of his spine. This will work on the nerve roots coming out of his spine.
- Scan with light but direct contact with skin to maximize penetration. Try to minimise light loss.

Stimulation of nerves for regeneration:

- Setting - 1-250Hz, 10min
- Starting at the base of the skull, slowly scan at 0.5cm/sec along both sides of the spine to just past his front legs. Then slowly scan from his armpit to his foot and back again.
- **Treat twice daily for two weeks**
- **Take care not to damage the probe cover (or anything else)**
- **Do not look at the light**
- **Take photos and some videos**

