



Treating Gingival Hyperplasia: ACTIVet Pro Super Pulsed Laser



AT A GLANCE

Challenges / Problems

- + Inflammation & pain
- + Negative reaction to alternatives

Outcomes

- + Visible signs of pain relief
- + Regained ability to comfortably eat hard food
- + Reduction in inflammation

"A Resounding Success"

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CASE PRESENTED

Max, a 10-year-old feline had recently been taken on by his owner, alongside several other cats, from a rescue centre. After being emitted for his 2nd vaccination, the owner reported strange behaviour when eating.

An examination was carried out. It was clear Max didn't tolerate any handling around the head. Striking out, and trying to escape.

It was found that he had severe periodontal lesions in his L upper carnassial tooth and in several other premolars/molars bilaterally. There was also severe gingival swelling, inflammation, bleeding and pain. This was likely to be caused by dental disease and chronic viral infection.

TREATMENT PLAN

The decision was made to provide dental treatment/tooth extraction, then ongoing support with anti-inflammatory medication to alleviate pain post-op.

The dental procedure was carried out on June 26th. 4 teeth were removed, alongside an ultrasonic clean, polish and chlorhexidine washout and gum line clean.

After the procedure, meloxydyl had been prescribed, but caused diarrhoea and vomiting. Thus Super Pulsed Laser was chosen as an alternative.

A regular post-op treatment was adopted to bring down inflammation and pain, using the ACTIVet Pro Super Pulsed Laser.

CONCLUSION

Upon undertaking treatment, we saw an immediate change in clinical results, and the patient's behaviour, was seen. His tolerance for the treatment significantly increased, no longer striking out, or trying to escape. Super Pulsed Laser treatment showed to successfully reduce swelling too, with the owner seeing an immediate change. Overall, treatment was a resounding success, greatly reducing the patient's pain with visible results.

CASE TIMELINE

Session 1 (July 6th)

The laser was used at 50hz, with a combination of red light and IR pulsed for one minute along gum line bilaterally, using the dome head. Surprisingly, Max tolerated this well and sat for the whole process without much movement. Upon returning home the owner called and stated that he had immediately eaten hard biscuits for the first time since they brought him home from the sanctuary.

Session 2 (July 8th)

On examination for the second session, there was definite improvement seen in inflammation, and tolerance/pain response. Using the same settings as in session 1, the laser was used for 2 minutes, again along the gum line. Again, Max tolerated the laser very well. The owner recognised that he was more comfortable and affectionate than before, with a greatly increased appetite.

Session 3 (July 13th)

Sticking to the same treatment method, Max continued to respond well to the treatments. There were clear signs of improvement to swelling, especially in the rear of the mouth, which was the worst affected area.

Session 4 (July 15th)

Upon examination, swelling in the rear of the mouth had continued to improve. Super Pulsed red light and IR light was continued, for a duration of 3 minutes. Max was becoming more himself at home, eating comfortably and well.

Session 5 - 6 (July 20th-22nd)

Due to the owner becoming unwell, Max couldn't attend his booked appointments.

Session 7 (July 27th)

There was a definite difference, seen in Max due to the missed sessions. Inflammation had visibly increased. Max's tolerance had decreased too, becoming more pain responsive, and trying to strike out. Despite this, the same treatment plan was continued. Max returned home where the owner saw an immediate improvement again, and Max had already started to eat more.

Session 8 (July 29th)

Max was showing the same signs of improvement seen before the missed sessions, and treatment was continued. The owner once again was pleased to say Max was returning to his normal self.