

# A Novel Intra-articular Therapy for Canine Elbow Osteoarthritis – Part 2

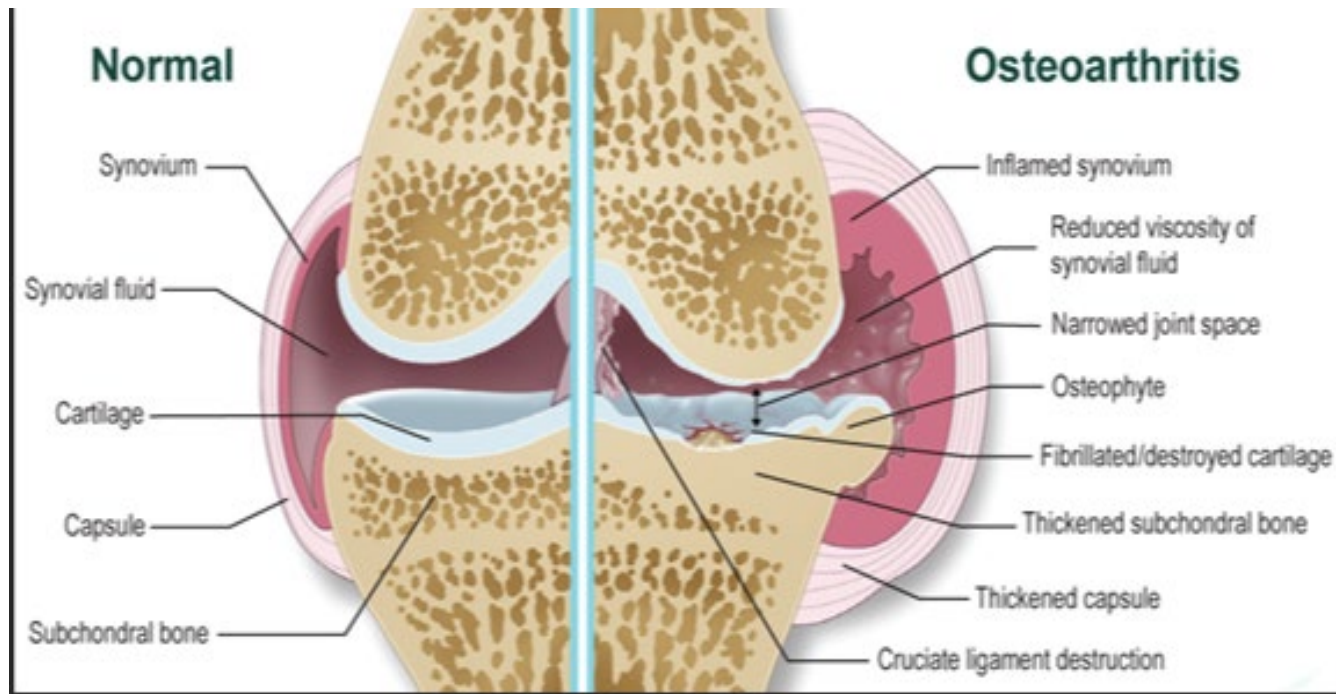
Shawn C. Kennedy, DVM, Diplomate, ACVS

Kevin Benjamino, DVM, Diplomate, ACVS

MedVet Columbus

# Osteoarthritis (OA)

- 20,000,000 of all canines in the US are affected
- 2,000,000 → referred to see specialists
- 900,000 → actually see a specialists
- 600,000 → actually get proper treatment



# Canine OA Pain Management: 2 Major Gaps



## Daily Drugs

- Ineffective for many
- Long-term safety issues
- Poor compliance



## Joint Replacement

- Not for all joints
- High risk for older pets
- Disruptive rehab

## General Practices

**\$4.2B Veterinary Revenue Gap**  
~2M cases / year referred  
only ~0.6M treated<sup>1</sup>

## Specialty Hospitals

<sup>1</sup>Harmony Marketing Partners survey results, 2016

# Management of OA



General Practitioner

Specialist

All Canine OA

Elbow OA

750

112

Referred

Treated

17

5

Don't Go

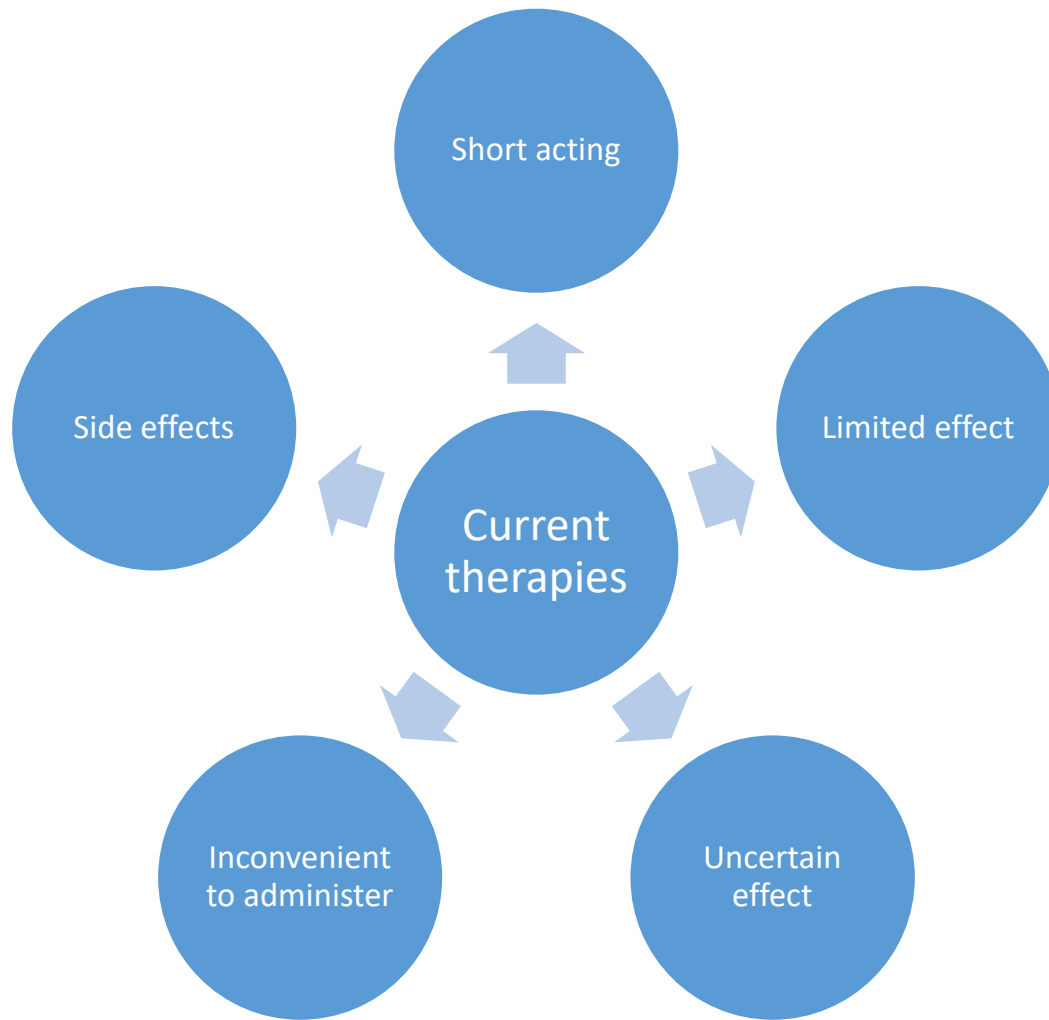
Go, but not treated

9

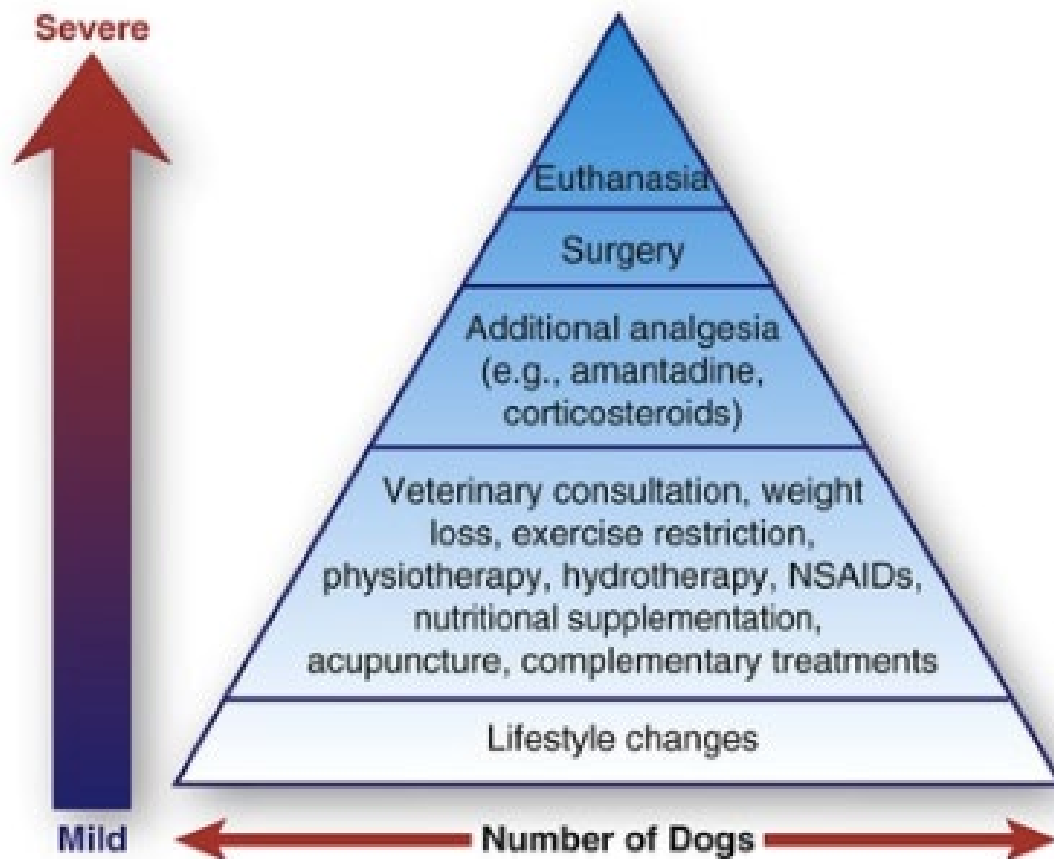
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Synovetin OA provides a new opportunity to help more dogs in pain from elbow dysplasia!



TYPE	Examples	Pros	Cons
NSAID	Carprofen, Deramaxx	Decreases pain and inflammation, PRN	Owner compliance, multiple doses needed, GI upset, ulcers, kidney disease
Analgesics	Amantadine, Gabapentin, hydrocodone	PRN, minimal side effects	Owner compliance, multiple doses needed, controlled drugs/owner misuse
Corticosteroids	Intra-articular dexamethasone	Pain control, easy to perform	Duration varies
Polysulfated glycosaminoglycan	Adequan	Monthly, owners can do at home	Aids to help with discomfort but doesn't full rid pain
Nutraceuticals Functional food	Chondroitin, Glucosamine Essential fatty acids, veterinary prescription diets	Daily medication or added to food	Owner compliance, lacks data
Mesenchymal stem cells	Multipotent stem cells	Differentiate into any cell type- chondrocytes, osteoblasts, etc	Need to be harvested via surgery, expensive



# Osteoarthrosis/Osteoarthritis

## Most common clinical disorder

- Progression
  - Synovial inflammation – earliest stage of joint degeneration
  - Ligamentous and capsular injury
  - Cartilage injury
  - Subchondral and perichondral bone injury – latest stage of disease

Progression rate





# OA and Synovial Macrophages

## The role of synovial macrophages and macrophage-produced cytokines in driving aggrecanases, matrix metalloproteinases, and other destructive and inflammatory responses in osteoarthritis

Bondeson J, Wainwright SD, Lauder S, et. al. Arthritis Research & Therapy 7 2006  
8:R187(doi:10.1.186/ar2099)

- Synovial inflammation is implicated in many signs and symptoms of OA, including joint swelling and effusion
- In the osteoarthritis synovium, both inflammatory and destructive responses are dependent largely on macrophages and these effects are cytokine driven through a combination of IL-1 and TNF $\alpha$
- These cytokines can stimulate their own production and induce synovial cells and chondrocytes to produce IL-6, IL-8, leukocyte inhibitory factor; as well as stimulate protease (matrix metalloproteinases (MMPs) and aggrecanases) and prostaglandin production
- ❖ **“Results suggest prioritization of attempts to modify macrophage function in OA, with the aim of decreasing both inflammatory synovitis and the production of degradative enzymes (cytokines) of importance for the progression of the disease”**

## The role of synovitis in osteoarthritis

Claire Y. J. Wenham and Philip G. Conaghan

**Abstract:** Osteoarthritis (OA) is the most common form of arthritis worldwide yet there is still a lack of effective treatments for this condition. Increasingly, attention has turned to the role of the synovium in OA as it is now recognized, in part from the use of modern imaging techniques, that synovitis is both common and associated with pain. This offers a target for treatment, for both symptom and potential structure modification. In this review we discuss the role of synovitis in driving detected synovial changes in OA.

*Ther Adv Musculoskel Dis*  
[2010] 2(4) 349–359  
DOI: 10.1177/  
1759720X10378373  
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[http://www.sagepub.co.uk/  
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Synovitis is prevalent in OA and precedes radiographic OA

Synovitis drives structural changes in OA

Macrophages and synoviocytes are overproduced in synovitis

Inflammatory mediators are secreted which destroy cartilage and drive more synovitis (Vicious Cycle)

New treatments that target macrophages reduce synovitis and pain

M J Benito, D J Veale, O FitzGerald, W B van den Berg, B Bresnihan

*Ann Rheum Dis* 2005;64:1263–1267. doi: 10.1136/ard.2004.025270

## Synovitis in Dogs with Stable Stifle Joints and Incipient Cranial Cruciate Ligament Rupture: A Cross-Sectional Study

Jason A. Bleedorn<sup>1,2</sup>, DVM, Diplomate ACVS, Erin N. Greuel<sup>1</sup>, BS, Paul A. Manley<sup>1,2</sup>, DVM, MSc, Diplomate ACVS, Susan L. Schaefer<sup>1,2</sup>, DVM, MS, Diplomate ACVS, Mark D. Markel<sup>1,3</sup>, DVM, PhD, Diplomate ACVS, Gerianne Holzman<sup>4</sup>, CVT, and Peter Muir<sup>1,2</sup>, BVSc, MVetClinStud, PhD, Diplomate ACVS & ECVS

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## Osteoarthritis and Cartilage



### Macrophages regulate the progression of osteoarthritis

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† Department of Orthopedics, Orthopedic Hospital of Guangdong Province, Academy of Orthopedics Guangdong Province, Guangdong Provincial Key Laboratory of Orthopedics and Traumatology, Guangzhou, China

‡ Department of Rheumatology, Guangzhou, China



Research article

## The role of synovial macrophages and macrophage-produced cytokines in driving aggrecanases, matrix metalloproteinases, and other destructive and inflammatory responses in osteoarthritis

Jan Bondeson<sup>1</sup>, Shane D Wainwright<sup>2</sup>, Sarah Lauder<sup>1</sup>, Nick Amos<sup>1</sup> and Clare E Hughes<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Rheumatology, Cardiff University, Heath Park, Cardiff, CF14 4XN, UK

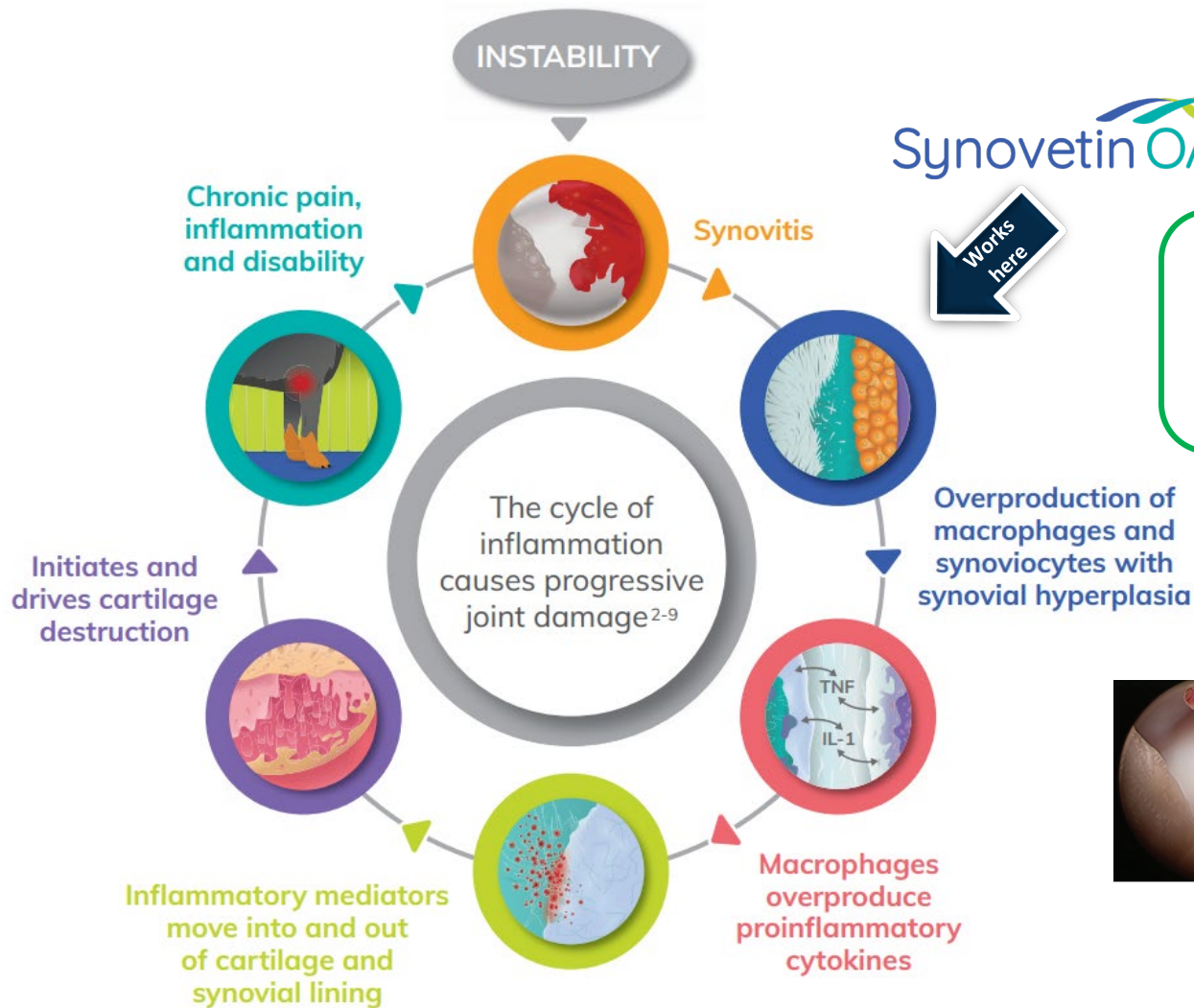
<sup>2</sup>Connective Tissue Biology Laboratories, Cardiff School of Biosciences, Cardiff University, Museum Avenue, Cardiff, CF10 3US, UK

Open Access

# Radionuclide Tin-117m (Synovetin OA)

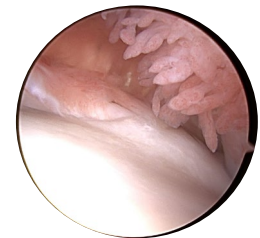
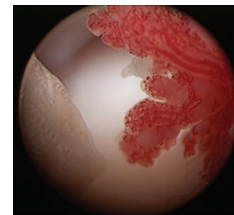
Synovetin OA<sup>®</sup> is marketed by:





Synovetin OA

**Synovetin OA<sup>®</sup>**  
breaks the vicious cycle  
 of inflammation  
 and chronic pain



# Radionuclide Tin-117m



- Reduces synovitis and relieves canine elbow AO pain
- Novel radio-isotope: Tin-117m
- Conversion electron radiation
- 0.3 mm penetration
- Half-life of 14 days
- Leaves via lymphatics



Comparison	Tin-117m	Iodine-131
Indication	OA	Feline hyperthyroidism
Administration	Local device	Systemic drug
Radionuclide distribution	Intra-articular	Systemic (sc/po)
Isolation	Not required	Required



# Radio·synovi·ortheses

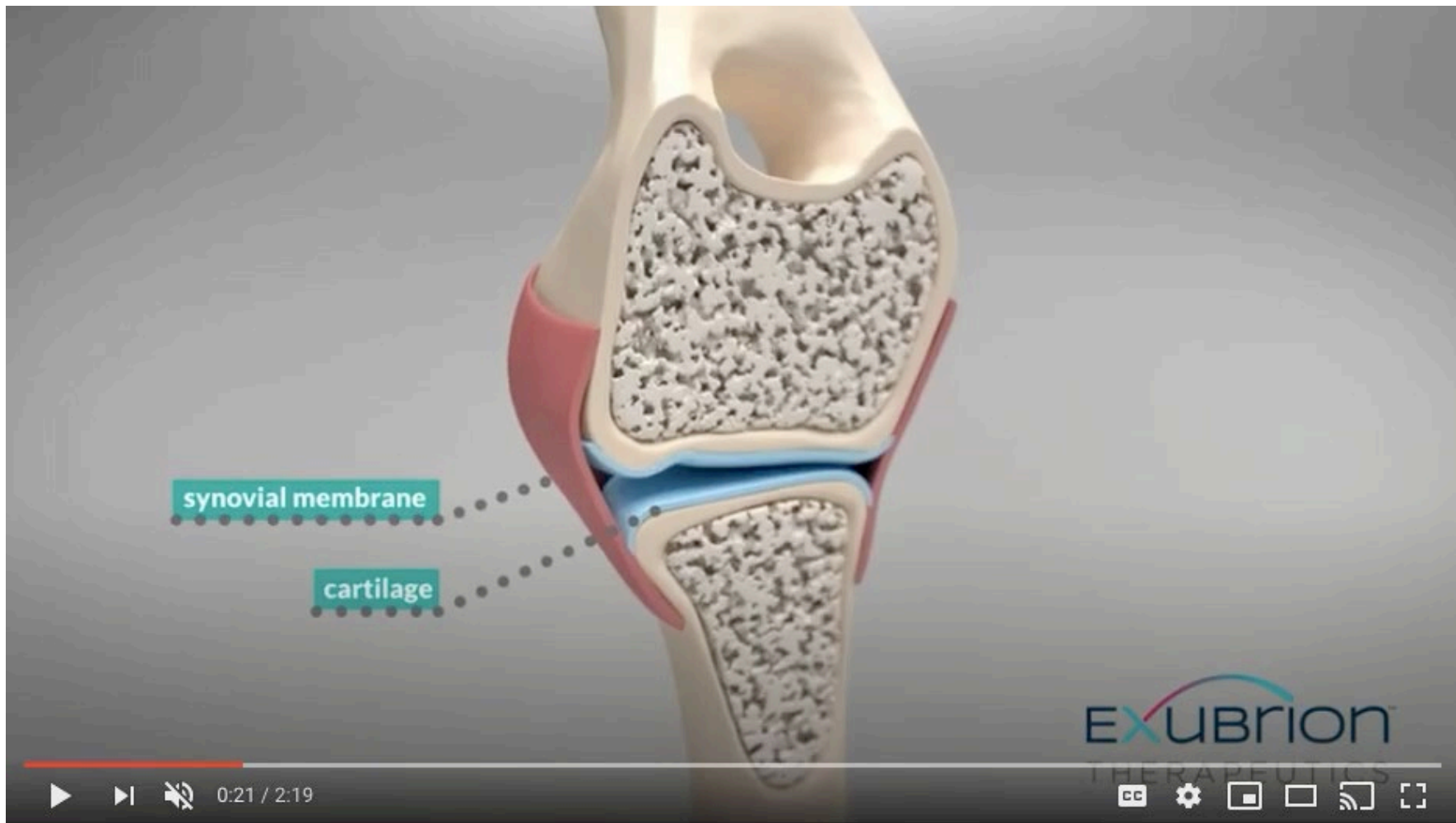
**What is radiosynoviorthesis (RSO)?** Intra-articular injection of radioisotope (radionuclide) to treat joint inflammation

**Mode of action:** Radionuclide is absorbed by synoviocytes and phagocytized by macrophages within the synovium resulting in apoptosis and non-inflammatory ablation of inflammatory cells

The homogeneous tin colloid suspension (1.5 – 20  $\mu\text{m}$ ) of tin-117m emits discrete (0.3 mm radiation range), low-energy conversion electron radiation

The colloid containing micro particles is retained in the canine joint space for at least 42 days (3 half-lives)

**Mechanism of cell death** from Synovetin OA is from extended duration ( $T_{1/2} = 14\text{d}$ ) low energy radiation (<158 keV) exposure effects





**Breaks the vicious cycle of inflammation  
that drives OA pain and progression**

- ✓ Can provide **ONE YEAR** of effectiveness with only **ONE DOSE**
- ✓ 92% treatment success in mild-moderate OA
- ✓ Non-systemic, targeted therapy
- ✓ No clinically significant systemic or local side effects
- ✓ Multimodal
- ✓ Outpatient (IA-injection)
- ✓ Radiotherapeutic veterinary device (tin-117m)

**Effective  
Long lasting  
Safe  
Convenient**

**[www.synovetin.com](http://www.synovetin.com)**







**NEW Synovetin OA™** breaks the cycle of inflammation and pain, clinically improving mobility and providing long-lasting relief.

Synovetin OA™ is a novel, conversion electron therapy that targets macrophages and synoviocytes in the injected joint.<sup>1,2</sup>

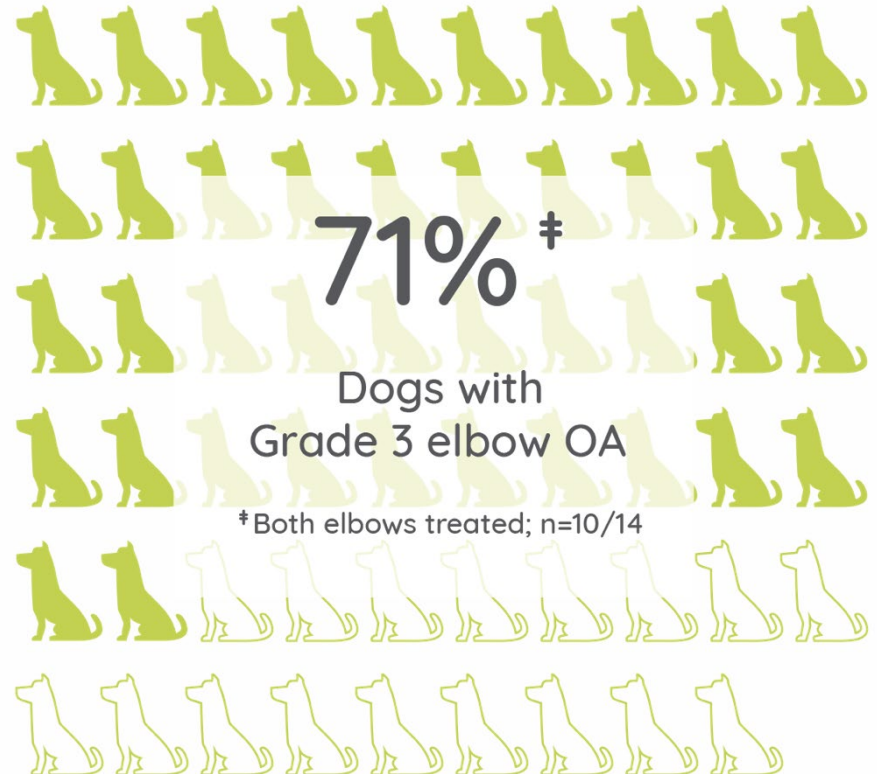


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S17

# Ideal Times to Use Radionuclide Tin-117m

- Conservative therapy from beginning
- Failure of conservative therapy
- Before or after procedures



# How Effective is Synovetin OA ?

## ✓ Canine Brief Pain Inventory

- Client survey about reduction in pain and level of activity
- Each time point survey compared to baseline survey results
- 37 dogs initially treated with the label dose of Synovetin OA

## ✓ 9 months results

- 20/32 (62%) both pain AND level of activity improved successfully
- 25/32 (78%) one OR other improved successfully with NO worsening of the other

## ✓ 12 months results

- 16/31 (52%) both pain AND level of activity improved successfully
- 24/31 (77%) one OR other improved successfully with NO worsening of the other

# How Effective is Synovetin OA ?

- ✓ **Force plate analysis of Grade 1 or 2 elbow OA (single leg injection)**
  - 22 dogs with grade 1 or 2 elbow OA in which the most painful elbow was injected
  - $\geq 5\%$  positive change in PVF or VI considered a successful treatment effect
  - Each dog served as its own control comparing each time point to initial baseline data
  - 3 different dosages (1.0, **1.75** and 2.5 mCi per joint for 50 lb. dog)
  - 18/22 (82%) treatment effect at one or more time points
- ✓ **1 month** – 9/22 (41%) treatment success
- ✓ **3 months** – 13/22 (59%) treatment success
- ✓ **6 months** – 13/21 (62%) treatment success
- ✓ **9 months** – 11/18 (61%) treatment success
- ✓ **12 months** – 4/13 (31%) treatment success

# How Effective is Synovetin OA ?

- ✓ **Force plate analysis of Grade 1 or 2 elbow OA (elbow reinjection )**
  - 10 dogs with grade 1 or 2 elbow OA in which both affected elbows were injected
  - $\geq 5\%$  positive change in PVF or VI considered a successful treatment effect
  - Each dog served as its own control comparing each time point to initial baseline data
  - Label dosed (1.75 mCi per joint in a 50 lb. dog)
  - Baseline, 3 and 6 month force plate evaluations only
  - 6/9 (67%) treatment effect at one or more time points
- ✓ **3 months – 5/9 (56%) treatment success**
- ✓ **6 months – 6/9 (67%) treatment success**

# How Effective is Synovetin OA ?

- ✓ **Clinician's lameness assessment (single leg injected)**
  - Lameness grading from 0 – 5 (worst)
  - Evaluated at walk and trot before and after joint manipulation
  - Each dog served as its own control comparing each time point to initial baseline data
  - 34 dogs in the Per Protocol group
  - 3 different dosages (1.0, **1.75** and 2.5 mCi per joint for 50 lb. dog)
- ✓ **9 months** – changes from baseline, indicating improvement from baseline, were found to be statistically significant (n=18)
- ✓ **12 months** – changes from baseline, indicating improvement from baseline, were found to be statistically significant (n=19)
- ✓ **McNemars test** –the comparison of cBPI success to clinician-assessed lameness success comparing baseline to each visit indicated statistical agreement.

# Recommended Best Use - **EARLY INTERVENTION**

## **MILD TO MODERATE OA, EARLY ELBOW DYSPLASIA**

**“When NSAIDS aren’t the answer”**

- ✓ With or in place of NSAIDs
- ✓ At NSAID failure
- ✓ When NSAIDs can cause safety issues
- ✓ When compliance may be an issue
- ✓ To reduce NSAID use

**Other uses:**

**In place of PRP or stem cells**

**Previously scoped dogs**

# Radiation Synovectomy Using $^{188}\text{Re}$ -Tin Colloid Improves Knee Synovitis as Shown By MRI in Refractory Rheumatoid Arthritis

Shin, et al. Nuclear Medicine Communications: April 2007- Volume 28- Issue 4

- Overall improvement
  - Pain intensities lower
  - Improved joint effusion
  - Increased range of motion
  - Decreased pain
  - Decreased synovial thickening



# Intra-articular Injection of a Tin-117m Radiosynoviorthesis Agent in Normal Canine Elbows Causes No Adverse Effects

Lattimer, et al. Vet Radio Ultrasound 2019; 60

- >99.1% of radionuclide Tin-117m activity was retained in the joint for ~45 days
- Absence of joint damage/systemic effects → safely used for radiosynoviorthesis in dogs with osteoarthritis
- 1, 3, 6, 9, 12 mos.
- All safety measures were within expected norms
- **No clinically significant treatment-related local or systemic adverse effects**
- 50K similar procedures done in people each year\*

# The Use of tin-117m colloid for Treatment of Naturally Occurring Grade 3 Osteoarthritis of the Elbow in Client Owned Dogs

Fabiana, et al. July 2018

- 12 month study
- 15 dogs with Grade 3 OA had a treatment success rate of 71.4%
- Safety: no systemic or local side effects noted

# Force Plate Analysis

## Force plate gait analysis—Grade 1 & 2 Elbow OA

82% of dogs showed significant increase in peak vertical force and/or mean vertical impulse after just 1 injection.<sup>25</sup>



Measurements taken at 1, 3, 6, 9, and 12 months.

Treatment Success = an improvement in PF and/or IMP during follow-up visit compared to baseline. n=22 dogs

PF=peak vertical force;

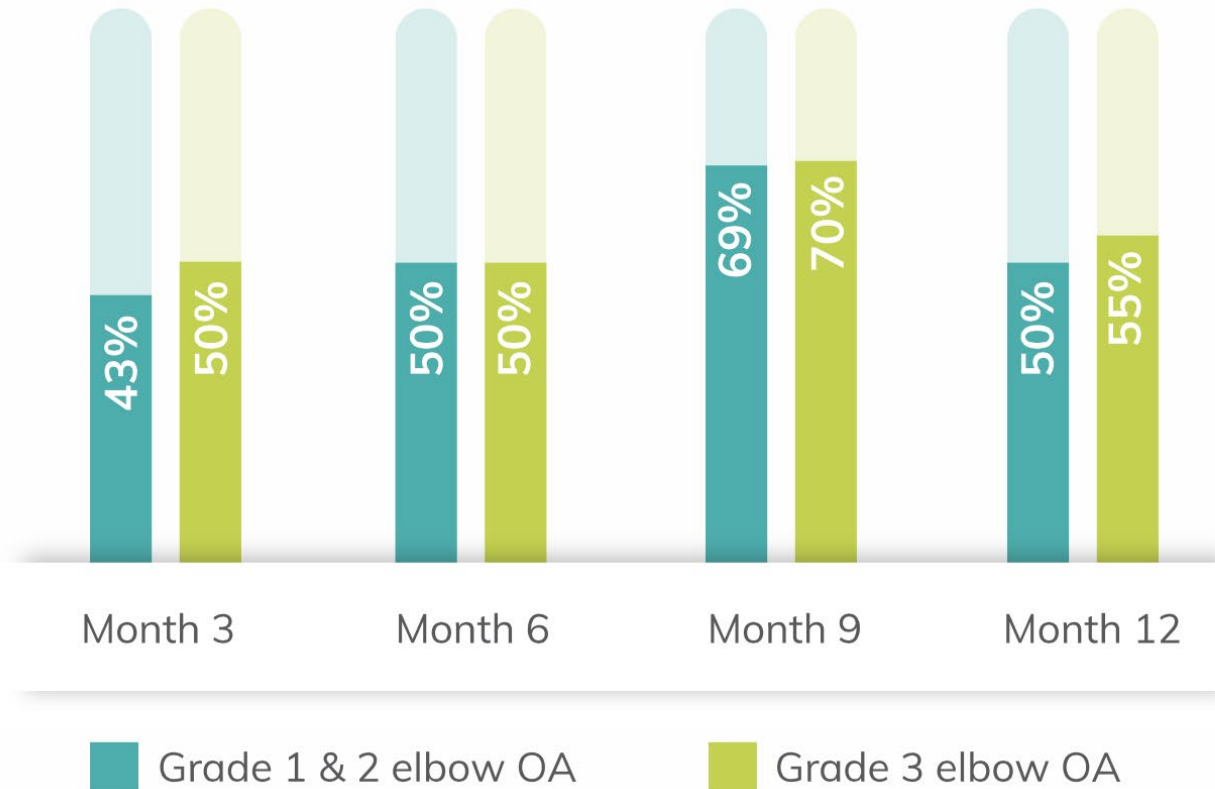
IMP=mean vertical impulse



# Owner and Clinician Pain scores

Pet parents reported 12 months of sustained efficacy

Percent of dogs successfully improved

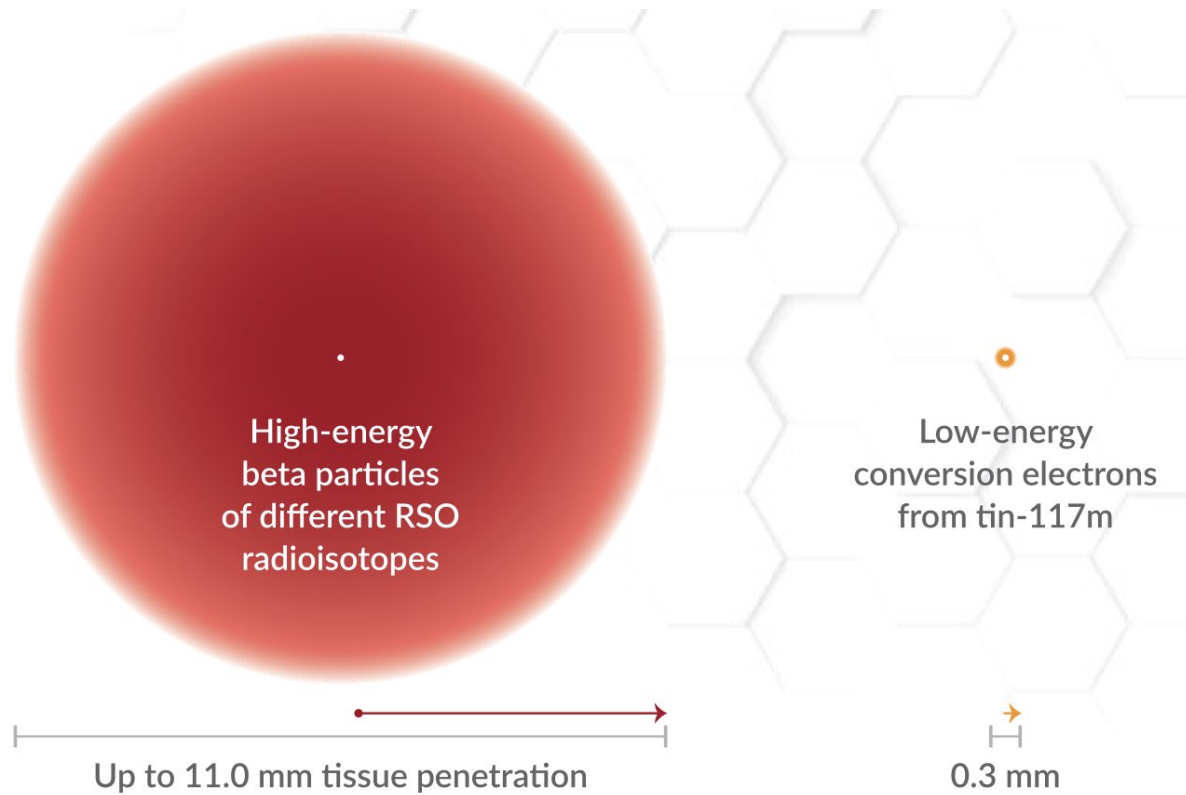
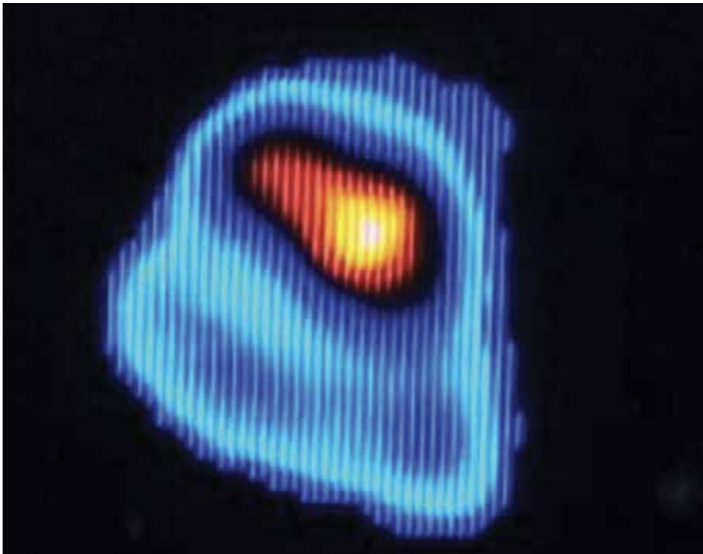


# Re-injection of tin-117m Colloid in Naturally Occurring Grade 1 or 2 Osteoarthritis of the Elbow in Client Owned Dogs

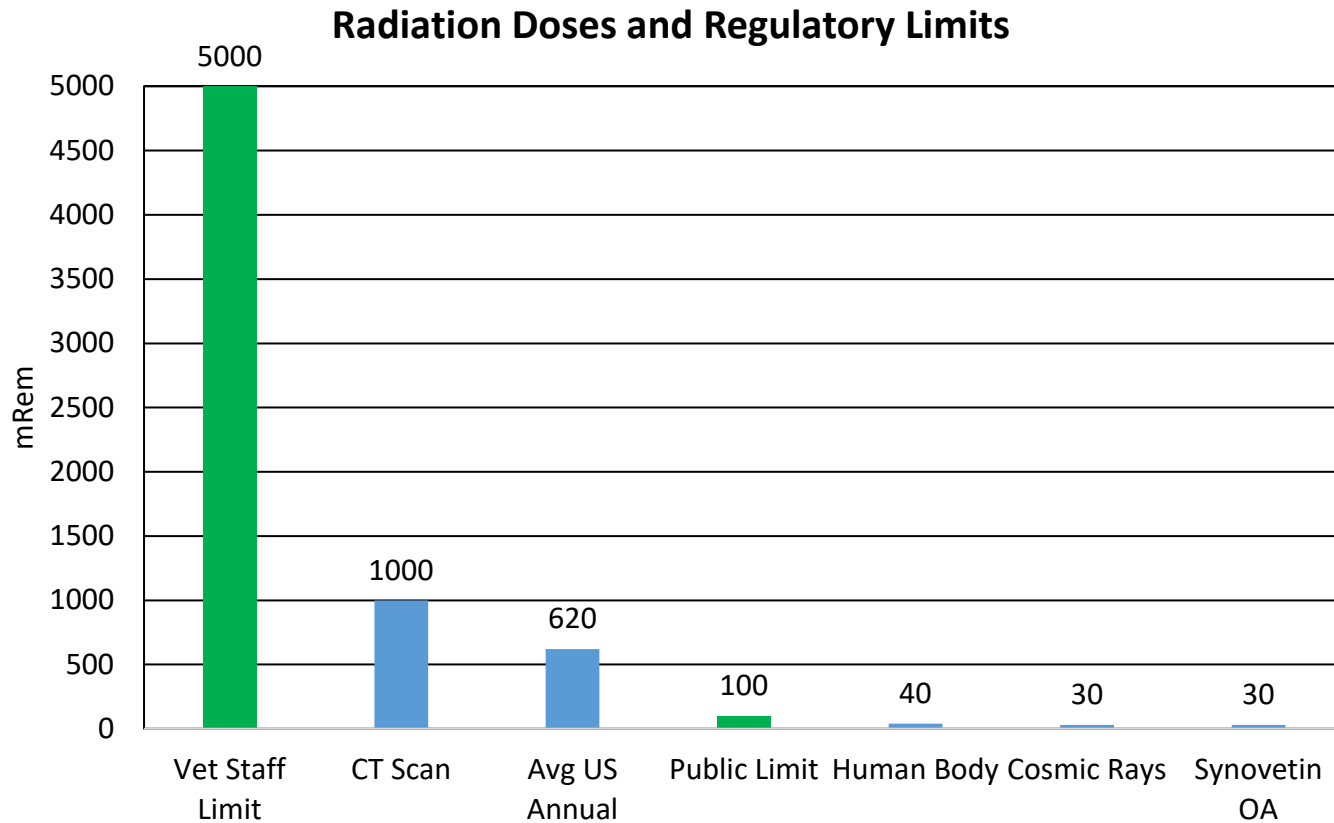
Fabiana, et al. July 2018

- 12 month study
- 44 dogs with Grade 1 or 2 elbow OA had a treatment success rate of 88.2%
- 10 dogs retreated with Synovetin OA one year after an initial dose had a 66.7% treatment success rate
- Safety: no systemic or local side effects noted with therapy

# Depth of penetration of tin 117M electrons



# Low, weak energy: Safe for family and other pets



# Human Radiotherapy

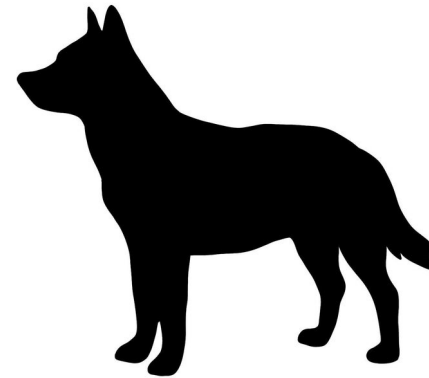
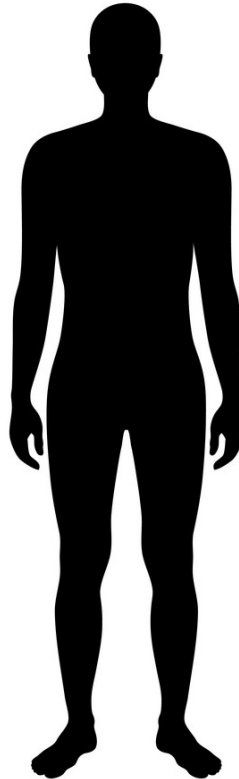
18F-FDG  
PET Scan  
**10-15 mCi**

I-131  
Hyperthyroidism  
**30 mCi**

Tc-99m  
Cardiac Stress Test  
**30-40 mCi**

Pd-103  
Prostate Cancer  
**5 mCi**

Ga-67  
Lymphoma  
**9 mCi**



Sn-117m  
Arthritis  
**4 mCi (avg)**



# Injection Care

- Recover with general population
- Same day go home
- ~4 weeks of limiting contact
  - No sleeping on bed
  - Close contact <15 mins
  - Intermediate contact <4 hours



## Instructions following Synovetin OA™ (tin 117m) Canine Arthritis Therapy

Dog's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Treatment Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Dose Administered: \_\_\_\_\_ mCi Measured Exposure Rate: \_\_\_\_\_ mR/h at 1m

Your dog has been treated with Synovetin OA™ (tin-117m) in one or more arthritic joints. Synovetin OA™, a radio-

\_\_\_\_ weeks:

- ✓ Do not sleep with the dog or hold the dog in your lap.
- ✓ Each member of the household should limit close contact to 15 minutes and should limit intermediate contact to 4 hours. Activities such as walking or playing with your dog can continue as usual.
- ✓ Minimize the time that young children and pregnant women spend in close contact with the dog.
- ✓ Avoid boarding your dog, or traveling with it by air or across any international borders or very large, organized events (professional sporting events, parades, etc.). Keep a copy of this document should any questions arise.
- ✓ Minimize use of public transportation and staying in public accommodations (e.g., hotels). Transport your dog in its carrier as far from passengers as is reasonable and safe for the dog.
- ✓ If your dog needs emergency care, please inform the provider about its treatment with radiotherapy, and to contact (RSO of facility, at RSO's phone number) with any questions.

If for any reason your dog dies within four months of treatment and you plan to have it cremated, this may be delayed until the radioactivity has decreased to an appropriate level.

Veterinarian signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I have received this information orally and in writing, and I understand it. I have had the opportunity to ask any questions.

Dog owner signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

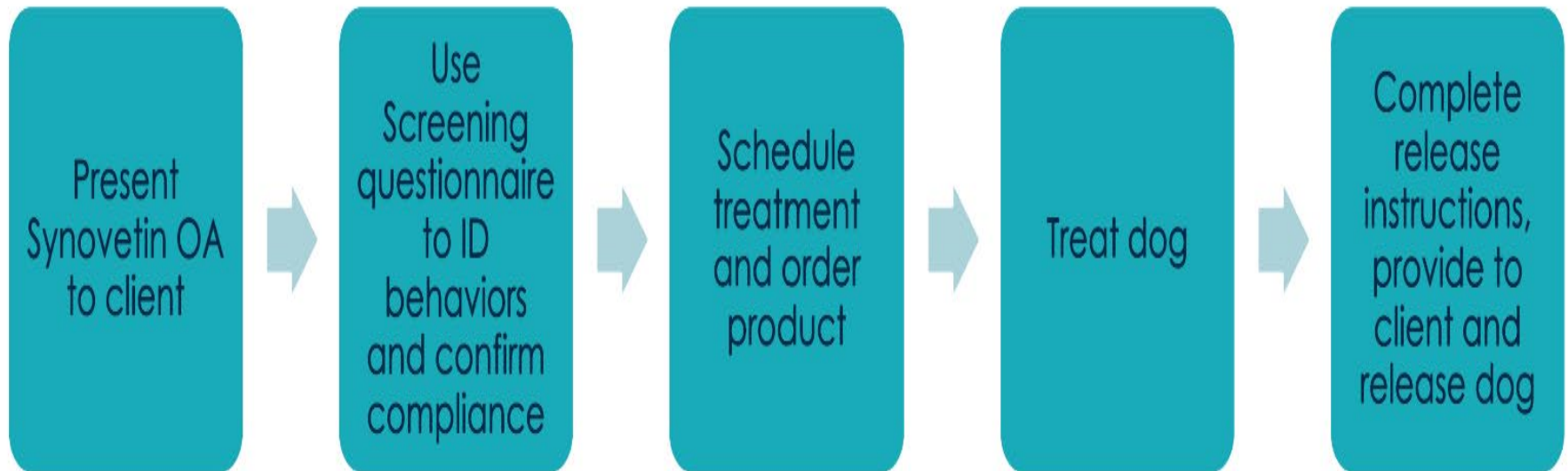
\*Approximately equivalent to 100 days of natural radiation exposure in the United States, or 10 round trip flights from Boston, MA to Los Angeles, CA.

# Exposure FYI

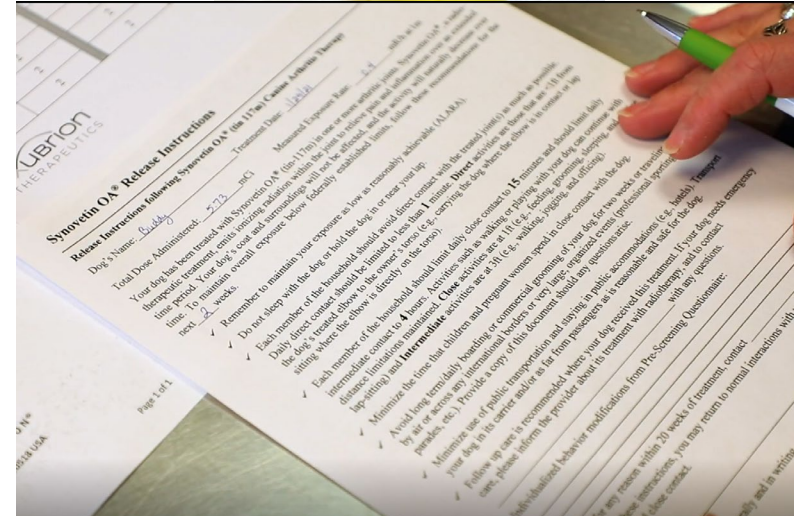
- The maximal expected owner dose with Radionuclide 117m is ~80 mrem
- Humans exposed ~300 mrem of natural background radiation/year

Activity	Radiation dose
2-view chest radiographs	10 mrem
Head CT	200 mrem
Roundtrip flight NY→ SEA	5.6 mrem
100 bananas	1 mrem
Driving 40 miles in a car	10 mrem

# The Process



# Measuring and releasing the dog



# Take Home Notes

- Radionuclide tin-117m (trade name: Synovetin OA)
- Single-dose treatment
- Extended duration of effect: up to a year
- Minimally invasive
- No systemic distribution or side effects
- Safety
- Treatment flexibility
- Annual retreatment



# Synovetin OA Pricing

- Veterinary list price: \$1,449 for 2 elbows, \$949 for 1 elbow
- Pet owner rebates (\$200/\$75)
- MedVet
  - Approximately 2200-2400 for 1 elbow
  - 2900-3100 for 2 elbows

Typical therapies	Avg. PO cost/yr.
NSAID + glucosamine + Adequan	\$1,800+
HA + steroid	\$2,200+
PRP	\$3,000+
Bi-lateral arthroscopy	\$4,000+

# Treatment Experiences



**Napoleon**  
4-year-old English Lab  
Before **Synovetin OA** Treatment

Confirmed elbow OA, primary treatment: NSAIDs





**Breaks the vicious cycle of inflammation  
that drives OA pain and progression**

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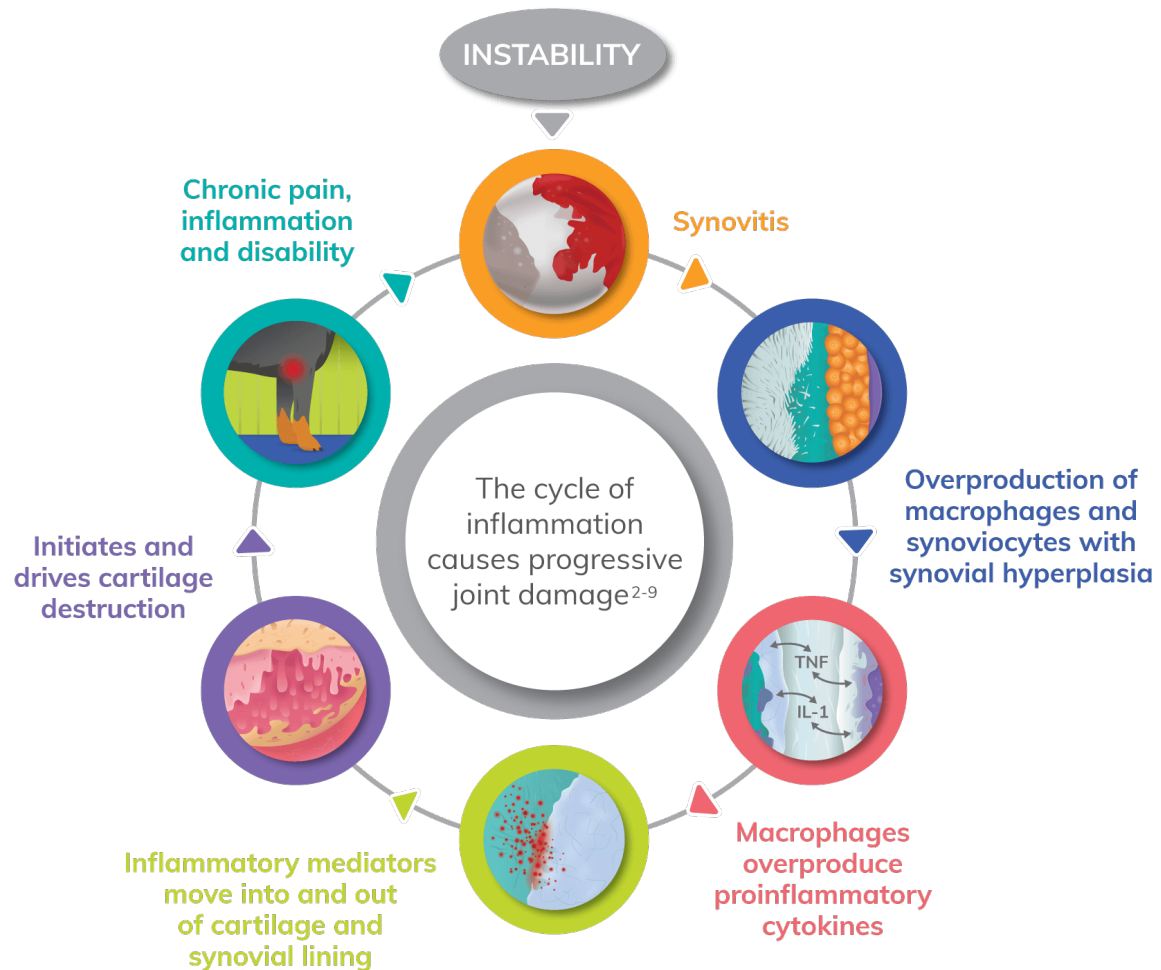
**[www.synovetin.com](http://www.synovetin.com)**





# Questions?

- Long term clinical outcome?
- Clinical outcome in other joints
- Insurance?



Thanks to Kevin Benjamino, Eric Schreiber, Haley Mascellino



■ MYKONOS  
**Heather & Connie Hopkins**  
Kansas City, MO

Synovetin OA

# Mykonos Experience



- ✓ **Mykonos, 1.5 year old, castrated male, 88 lb. German Shephard, bilateral ununited anconeal processes.**
  - ✓ **Right elbow injected with label dose 10/14/15**
  - ✓ **Left elbow injected with label dose 9/20/16**

cBPI scoring	Baseline	1 mos.	3 mos.	6 mos.	9 mos.	Baseline <sup>2</sup>	1 mos.	3 mos.
Date	10/13/15	11/10/15	1/7/16	4/1/16	7/7/16	9/19/16	10/26/16	12/15/16
Pain Severity Score (Q 1-4)	6.25	2.00	0.75	0.00	0.00	6.00	0.00	0.00
Pain Interference Score (Q 5-10)	2.17	0.83	0.00	0.33	0.00	7.17	0.00	0.00
Quality of Life Score (Q 11)	Good	Very Good	Very Good	Excellent	Excellent	Poor	Excellent	Excellent

Baseline prior to left elbow injected  
Baseline<sup>2</sup> prior to right elbow injected

# Mykonos Experience



- ✓ **Mykonos, 1.5 year old, castrated male, 88 lb. German Shephard, bilateral ununited anconeal processes.**
  - ✓ **Right elbow injected with label dose 10/14/15**
  - ✓ **Left elbow injected with label dose 9/20/16**
  - ✓ **Both elbows injected with label dose 12/18/17**

	6 mos.	9 mos.	12 mos.	Baseline <sup>3</sup>	3 mos.	6 mos.	9 mos.	12 mos.
Date	3/23/17	6/22/17	9/21/17	12/17/17	5/4/18	7/6/18	9/21/18	12/30/18
Pain Severity Score (Q 1-4)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pain Interference Score (Q 5-10)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Quality of Life Score (Q 11)	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Very Good	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent

Baseline<sup>3</sup> prior to both elbows injected

**Thank you!**