

## **Stem Cell Therapy at VetCare**

Stem cells are present in all of us and all of our pets. They are cells present from birth which have not yet differentiated into specialised cells in the body. All the cells in our bodies originally started life as stem cells.

Stem cells function to heal damaged tissue and grow new tissue. If you sustain an injury or undergo surgery, stem cells are mobilised from around the body to help the healing process.

Stem cells have been used in treatment for a long time. Bone marrow transplants are a form of stem cell therapy. Stem cells need to be activated in order for them to do their work. This activation can be carried out by some special proteins in the body, or we can do it by injecting activator substances. A suitable activator can be sourced from the otherwise discarded placentae of sheep. This is purified, and then injected intravenously into our patients, stimulating the patient's own stem cells into action.

Alternatively, a surgeon can remove the stem cells from the body, from fat tissue or bone marrow, activate them externally, and then inject them back into the site of injury. This involves an anaesthetic and surgery.

Stem cell therapy can be used to help treat a wide variety of conditions, though the most common use is for arthritis and kidney disease in dogs and cats. Other uses include; Accelerating wound and bone healing after surgery, helping with Spinal injury recovery, Treating chronic non-healing infections, fighting severe Gingivitis (gum disease) and fixing non healing Corneal (eye) ulcers.

At our clinics we use SGF 1000 treatment. This involves one or more intravenous injections of stem cell activator into our patient. Stem cells throughout the body are activated and migrate to sites of tissue damage, increasing the rate of healing by improving blood flow and providing new healing cells.

We have been using this on many cases already over the last 12 months and have seen some amazing results in our geriatrics, arthritic pets, damaged eyes, and kidney cats, and have noticed an increased healing rate. This is an area of therapy that is expanding rapidly as more uses are found for it. Please contact us if you would like to find out more about how this affordable therapy could assist us to keep you pets living better, longer. Kindest regards, Dr Alex Melrose.