A comment on studies using force-plate analysis

Dear Sir,

Congratulations on the recently published study of Beraud et al. ‘Effect of exercise on kinetic gait analysis of dogs afflicted by osteoarthritis’ (1). The study shows that exercise prior to force-plate analysis affects the recorded measurements in dogs with osteoarthritis. Significant differences were noted between recordings taken prior to and after exercise.

The results of this study will hopefully influence the design of future studies using force-plate analysis. In particular, it would be especially interesting and valuable to see what effect exercise has on the compared outcomes of various techniques employed to treat cranial cruciate ligament deficiency. Our clinical impression is that the tibial plateau levelling osteotomy produces outcomes far superior to lateral imbrication techniques in large-breed, highly athletic dogs that are accustomed to activities such as hiking and hunting through rough terrain, distance running, mushing, agility and competitive field trial. However, much to our surprise, this has not been borne out in the recent literature (2, 3).

Respectfully,

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References