

Breaking News

Hi! Tommy Boy here,

Last December, my Mom took me to the vet, and on that day I wasn't quite sure what was happening. I didn't get any breakfast that morning, but I noticed Athena and Barney didn't either. No breakfast should have been a major clue to me that something was going to be verrrry different that day, but I just thought ok, I'll go along with this gig.

When I got to the vet I didn't get to go home that day, and this was strange because I always got to go home before. Well, ok, umm, they shaved me, pricked me, and poked me, and I'm wondering, hey what is all this, dang! Next thing I know I'm on a table and this mask comes over my nose. At first I'm thinking, and then I'm getting sleepy, and pretty soon I'm going zzzzzzzzzzz. I woke up and then it dawned on me, a few months ago my vet, Dr. Scot Ivers, was telling my Mom something about moving some cells from my shoulder to my hip to help make the pain go away and help me walk better. This must be that surgery to harvest stem cells from my shoulder that they were talking about way back when.

I woke up very late that day and I didn't feel so good. My Mom came to visit and I only managed to get my head up once, but I wagged my tail 3 times so she knew I remembered her and that I was ok, considering what I'd just been through. The next day I was so happy to eat, I didn't even care it wasn't my normal food. I do think about food a lot. I love food! My Mom came to visit and she was so happy that I was back to myself again, but I was thinking why did I have to stay at the Dr's? My Mom said I was being a good boy and that I was really brave. She had a funny strange look on her face when she saw my cut. I overheard her say something to my new friends that it seems like a big incision. But I didn't understand why I couldn't go home, and I really wanted to go home. My Mom said something like, you got through the first part, and tomorrow you'll have the second part, which won't be so bad, just one big injection. What!! Doesn't she know I've got to get back to my house to play with Barney; I want to be where Barney is. Athena is ok, but she's a girl. Next, they shaved my hip, so now I have two bald spots, one on my shoulder, which is really a big square, and one on my hip. Ok, so I have a funny haircut for the next few months.

While I'm at the vet's, my new bestest friend Emily just loves me! My other friends, Brenda and Jenn, are great too, Robyn stays with me all night. Every so often I wake up to see who's around, and Robyn is always there. The next day, here it is, again, with that mask and zzzzzzzzz. This time I wake up and I feel no different. My Mom visits me and she says, ok dude, you're back to normal, but you still can't come home until tomorrow. Ok, but I'm not all that happy staying here anymore, so maybe if I whine a bit she'll take pity on me and take me home today. But that didn't work, and it only made my Mom sad, but she did say I'm definitely coming home tomorrow.

Today I get to go home, yippee, hooray! Ahh Barney, Athena, boy am I glad to see you. They seem happy to see me, too. Now I get to play with Barney! But nope, my Mom puts me in a crate. What did I do? My Mom says no playing for awhile. I have to be quiet and rest. What!! I want to play, Mom!! I'm in a crate looking out at Barney and Athena, umm not quite what I had in mind. I'm in and out of the crate, but it seems like every time I want to play, it's back into the crate again. It was a long time in that crate. My Mom says it was only a week, but it sure seemed longer to me. Human time and dog time must be waaay different.

Three Months Later in human time -- dog time, feels waaay longer...

I went back to see the vet for my follow-up visit. My Mom tells me I don't have to stay there this time. Off I go with Jenn and when I come back, my Mom says, well Doc? He says I'll talk with you tomorrow. Umm! My Mom says Doc so many people are waiting to hear the news, but he says they'll have to wait until tomorrow. He wants the experts to review the x-rays first. The next day Dr. Ivers says my X-ray results are STUNNING! Get that! Wow! I'm just so happy I feel better! The Doc says the hip bone is growing back, there's a rounding of the joint, and there's actual femur space between the joint. Not sure what all that means, but I just know I feel better a whole lot better, and I don't have to take much pain medication any more..

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to all my special friends who helped support my successful operation! I REALLY, REALLY, REALLY appreciate it! Maybe Rescue can now buy me a pair of shoes so I can go on Dancing with the Stars!

With much doggy love and gratitude!
Your friend, Tommy Boy

PS Here are some of my pics

Isn't that a big cut for taking out those stem cells?



Those are my stem cells from my shoulder



These are my cells being put back in my hip area.

