@camberandthecrew



Camber, South Australia

WHAT IS IVDD?

Intervertebral Disc Disease (IVDD) affects the discs between your dog's bones (vertebrae). Some breeds are genetically predisposed to developing IVDD.

These discs act like cushions between the vertebrae. When a disc degenerates, it can bulge or herniate, putting pressure on the spinal cord and nerves.

Visit our website to learn more.

www.cujoshope.org

Contact Us:

contact@cujoshope.org

Follow us on social media:

@cujoshope

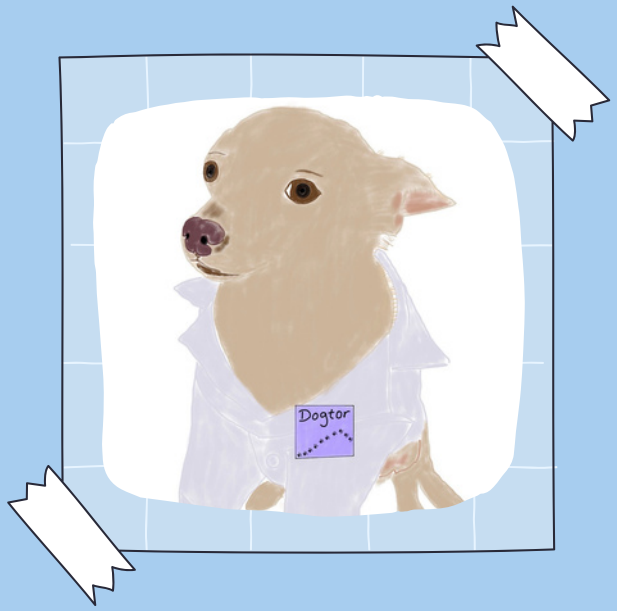
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INTERVERTEBRAL DISC DISEASE



Basic Information

Cujo's Hope

IVDD AWARENESS • EDUCATION • SUPPORT

RISK FACTORS

GENETICS

Fibroblast Growth Factor (FGF4) is a gene involved in a dog's growth and development. Two distinct FGF4 retrogenes are associated with shortened limbs:

- **FGF4L1 (Chromosome 18)**: Associated with chondrodysplasia (CDPA), which causes shortened legs.
- **FGF4L2 (Chromosome 12)**: Associated with chondrodystrophy (CDDY), shortened legs, early disc degeneration, and increased IVDD risk.

Genetics *influences* risk, not certainty. Additional genetic, environmental, and lifestyle factors may also contribute.

OTHER RISK FACTORS

- Age
- Body weight
- Anatomy
- Previous back or neck injury
- Lack of muscle tone

IMPORTANT

Time is critical. Dogs can go from mild pain to paralysis in hours or days.
Call a *veterinary clinic or seek emergency care immediately if you suspect your pet has IVDD.*

EMERGENCY SIGNS

Sudden inability to walk.

Paralysis in one or both legs.

Dragging knuckles or paws.

Cannot feel pain when toes are pinched.

Loss of bladder or bowel control.

Severe pain: crying, screaming, or unable to get comfortable.

SIGNS

Pain or yelping when touched

Stiff back or stiff neck.

Reluctance to jump, shake, move, or use the stairs.

Chest tightness.

Hunched back or arched posture.

TREATMENTS

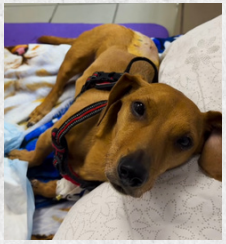
CONSERVATIVE



Louie, Pennsylvania, United States

Strict crate rest: Limiting movement to allow healing.
Pain management: Medications to relieve pain and discomfort.
Other treatment: As prescribed by your veternarian.

SURGERY



Ted, Maine, United States

May be recommended for severe pain, weakness, paralysis, or unsucessful conservative treatment.
Goal: relieve pressure on spinal cord by removing herniated disc material.
Recovery: rest, nursing care, and rehabilitation as directed by your veternarian.

Always follow your veterinarian's instructions. Treatment plans vary depending on your dog's condition and the severity of IVDD symptoms.