How to Champion Research and Education in Canine Inherited Disorders: A Model Approach
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INTRODUCTION

Studying inherited diseases in companion animals, with emphasis on scientific clinical investigations and his (is for veterinarians, is a difficult policy in some cases, detailed characterization of breed-specific inherited disorders, and the development of tools for diagnosis, therapy, and prevention are not available. Many disorders may be misunderstood due to breed differences, and even in certain cases, the underlying genetic basis of the disorder may not be fully understood. As a result, treatment options are limited, and the overall management of these disorders is often challenging.

STIMULATE RESEARCH

Investigation of Causes of Hind Limb Ataxia and Weakness in Pug Dogs

Research objectives:
1. To determine the cause of hind limb ataxia and weakness in Pug dogs.
2. To develop a clinical management plan for these dogs.
3. To identify potential risk factors associated with the development of these symptoms.

GATHER RESOURCES

- Published Literature Search
- Breed Club Health Information
- Google Search of Breed Websites and Facebook (Rescue, Admitters, Breeders)
- Veterinary Information Network
- Case Reports from owners of affected dogs
- Develop questionnaire for owners of affected dogs
- OFA Recommended CHIC tests, Breed Health Certification results
- OFA POCA Health Survey
- POCA AKC Breed Standard
- Other rule out disease data (Degenerative Myelopathy)
- Global Veterinary Information

INDEX CASE

The term "spinal myelopathy" refers to a complex of spinal cord conditions that usually includes both sensory and motor signs. The pathogenesis relates to the various phenomena that occur in the spinal cord, such as multiple sclerosis, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, and spinal cerebrovascular disease. The pathogenesis also includes a number of spinal cord anomalies, such as those associated with degenerative diseases of the spine.

PROFESSIONAL AND SOCIAL OUTREACH

- Successfully enrolled 40+ pug owners of Pug dogs affected with myelopathy in the Pug Research Study for 10 years.
- Presentation of preliminary data at national veterinary conferences.
- AVMA Animal Health Clinical Studies Database utilized.
- State VMAs, Veterinary Specialty Groups, and other professional affiliations.
- Department websites were updated.
- The Pug Dog Club of America (POCA) website was updated.
- Established Website: www.pugresearchstudy.com
- Established Facebook Page: Pug HIgh Tech - Real
- Support Lay Groups with Disseminated Pugs

GOALS AND STAKEHOLDERS

Goals
- Initiate other areas of research regarding care
- Surgical techniques
- Medical management
- Palliative therapy
- Physical therapy
- Integrative medicine
- Regenerative medicine including stem cells, Genes and valid health certification procedure utilizing radiology?
- AVCM Consensus Statement on Pug Myelopathy

Stakeholders
- Veterinarians and Specialists
- Breed Club/AKC
- Ethical breeders
- Rescue organizations
- Owners of companion animals
- Large scale pure-bred commercial operations

AVMA AAHSD

AVMA Animal Health Studies Database

Pug Myelopathy References

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