

Breed Health Coordinator Report.

This year the KC did not organise breed BHC seminar but instead held a Large & Giant Breed Working Party meeting. I was not able to attend, but James Kelly kindly agreed to. The main subject of this seminar was to discuss Bloat in large breed dogs and was presented by Prof Mark Dunning from Nottingham University.

I have the minutes from that meeting along with the slide presentation for anyone who is interested in reading them. Hopefully we can upload these to the new website when it is fully functional. The main points of the science that is being conducted on this condition were presented along with intrinsic and extrinsic risk factors associated with the condition. One interesting table that was presented was what breed are more disposed to contracting bloat. The Weimaraner breed came out 3rd on the list. So, we do have a high incidence of bloat which owners should be mindful of and look for early signs to get immediate veterinary intervention.

Breed	GDV/Risk Ratio	Risk Rank
Great Dane	41.4	1
Saint Bernard	21.8	2
Weimaraner	19.3	3
Irish Setter	14.2	4
Gordon Setter	12.3	5
Standard Poodle	8.8	6
Basset Hound	5.9	7
Doberman Pinscher	5.5	8
Old English Sheepdog	4.8	9
German Shorthaired Pointer	4.6	10

Early in October last year the Kennel Club Genetics Centre (KCGC) has been collaborating with researchers in Glasgow and Switzerland to investigate the genetics of an exercise induced paroxysmal dyskinesia in Weimaraners.

This research has now been completed, the causal variant has been validated using some additional cases and details of the causal variant have been submitted for peer-review.

https://www.cagt.co.uk/product/paroxysmal_movement_disorder/

Owners can now test for this:

Canine Genetic Testing (CAGT; the DNA testing service that operates alongside the KCGC) has now started offering a DNA test based on the causal variant.

Links to information about the research and the DNA test are below.

This is the link to the CAGT post: <https://www.cagt.co.uk/pmd>

And this is to the KCGC post: <https://www.canine-genetics.org.uk/pmd/>

I have also had reports of a few cases of puppies developing locomotion/spinal health issues and these seem to be coming from a few lines. These incidences have been reported to the KC Health team and we hope they will follow up with the breeders, although not all pedigrees are known for all cases as some pups were unregistered.

There is growing concern for the number of litters that are being registered with colour not recognised CNR and even cases of 'Blond' pups being registered by the KC. The WCGB and the other breed clubs have been in detailed discussions with KC Health Team to have these litters de-registered as they are clearly not 'true' Weimaraner's. The KC is following up on this and we hope to have an update from them in due course.

The number of 'Blue' litters being advertised over the COVID 19 period went up significantly and some breeders have been registering these litters as Mouse or Roe Grey to circumvent the system and have their litters registered. Again, we are in active discussion with the KC to try and put a stop of these practices as they will eventually be detrimental to the Breed health.

Dr Christopher Thrasivoulou