

## GLOBAL NEWS

### Understanding and diagnosing canine hypothyroidism<sup>1</sup>

DVM360, October 19<sup>th</sup> 2021

Canine hypothyroidism is a slowly progressive disorder resulting from failure of the thyroid gland to secrete amounts of thyroid hormones adequate for maintaining normal organ functions. Although hypothyroidism is relatively common and thyroid hormone testing is readily available, there is a diagnostic challenge because the clinical signs can be subtle and highly variable. Furthermore, there are numerous causes of low thyroid hormone levels in euthyroid dogs. Because of these factors, making a correct diagnosis of hypothyroidism can be difficult. Causes of diagnostic confusion: factors that decrease T4 in euthyroid dogs - It is critically important to remember the factors that can influence thyroid hormone testing, and the following should be carefully considered before making a diagnosis of hypothyroidism - Drugs, breed, age, random fluctuations, nonthyroidal illness. Diagnostic approach: specific thyroid tests - TT4, fT4, TSH, Tests for thyroiditis. Because of the numerous factors that complicate thyroid diagnostics, a workup for hypothyroidism should always begin with reasonable clinical suspicion based on history, examination findings, and clinicopathologic parameters. It is important to carefully consider and, when possible, exclude nonthyroidal causes of a low T4 level prior to testing

### Behaviour resembling human ADHD seen in dogs<sup>2</sup>

MVC, October 15<sup>th</sup> 2021



Canine research group at the University of Helsinki collected data on more than 11,000 dogs by conducting an extensive behavioural survey. The goal of the study was to identify environmental factors underlying canine ADHD-like behaviour and potential links to other behavioural traits. The dog's age and gender as well as the owner's experience of dogs make a difference. Dogs who spent more time alone at home daily were more hyperactive, impulsive and inattentive than dogs who spent less

time on their own. Breeding has had a significant effect on the breed-specific behaviour of different dog breeds. Hyperactivity and impulsivity on the one hand, and good concentration on the other, are common in breeds bred for work, such as the German Shepherd and Border Collie. In contrast, a calm disposition is considered a benefit in breeds that are popular as pets or show dogs, such as the Chihuahua, Long-Haired Collie and Poodle, making them easier companions in everyday life. ADHD is also often associated with other mental disorders and illnesses. For example, obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) often occurs in conjunction with ADHD. In dogs, OCD-like obsessive-compulsive behaviour can appear as, among other things, tail chasing, continuous licking of surfaces or themselves, or staring at 'nothing'.

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### Managing canine infectious respiratory disease complex<sup>3</sup>

Vet Times, October 12<sup>th</sup> 2021

Canine infectious respiratory disease complex is an acute, contagious cause of cough caused by a variety of bacteria and viruses. It is commonly known as kennel cough, although this does not reflect its frequent finding in dogs that have not been kennelled nor the variety of clinical signs that may accompany infection by its various contributory pathogens. In most cases, management is focused on treatment of the clinical signs and minimisation of spread to others. It is possible to vaccinate against many of the agents involved. Investigation is indicated in individual dogs with severe clinical signs or chronic disease or in the face of an outbreak. Most pathogens involved in CIRDC are viral or poorly cultivatable bacteria; therefore, PCR of samples is often necessary for their detection. Antimicrobials are not indicated for the management of uncomplicated CIRDC.

**Table 1. Pathogens included in the canine infectious respiratory disease complex, whether vaccines are available against them and whether those vaccinations are considered to be "core". Note: this list is not exhaustive**

Pathogen	Vaccine protection
<b>Bacteria</b>	
Bordetella bronchiseptica	Yes (non-core)
Mycoplasma cynos	No
Streptococcus equi subspecies zooepidemicus	No
<b>Viruses</b>	
Canine adenovirus 2	Yes (core)
Canine distemper virus	Yes (core)
Canine herpesvirus	Yes (non-core)
Canine parainfluenza virus	Yes (non-core)
Canine pneumovirus	No
Canine respiratory coronavirus	No



**ASBRIP**

**Presentation:**

150 ml, 30 ml

**Dose**

1ml/5kg body weight every 12 hrs