

New research reveals the dog breeds at most risk of hypothyroidism

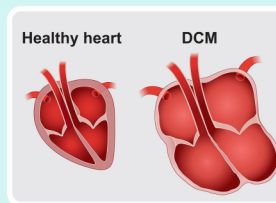
RCVS, October 22



The Royal Veterinary College has published a new study exploring the frequency and risk factors for hypothyroidism in dogs. This revealed an annual frequency of one case in 400 dogs (0.23%) for the condition, with the most common breeds diagnosed being Standard Doberman Pinschers (x 17.02), Tibetan Terriers (x11.25), Boxers (x10.44) and Alaskan Malamutes (x 9.71). Other findings included: The risk of having hypothyroidism rose as dogs aged, with dogs aged 11-13 years at 4.54 times the risk of hypothyroidism compared with dogs aged 5-7 years. The risk of hypothyroidism increased as adult bodyweight increased. Neutered females and neutered males were more likely to be diagnosed than entire females. Breeds with long skull (dolichocephalic x1.35) or short skull (brachycephalic x 1.15) conformation had higher risk of hypothyroidism compared to dogs with medium length (mesocephalic) skull conformation.

Dilated cardiomyopathy in dogs

Vet Times, November 22



Dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM) is the second-most common acquired cardiac disease in dogs, with large breeds, such as the great Dane (prevalence 35.6%), Newfoundland (10%), Irish wolfhound (24.2%), deerhound (21.6%) and the Dobermann (58%), being overrepresented. With regards to hypothyroidism, one study in the Dobermann reported no difference in echocardiographic parameters, and the number of ventricular premature complexes between healthy and hypothyroid dogs. However, DCM-affected Dobermanns had a 2.26-fold increased risk of also being affected by hypothyroidism. Therefore, some confusion exists about the role of this endocrine disease, causing DCM. Dietary factors have also been documented in some breeds, with low taurine and L-carnitine plasma concentrations being associated with a DCM phenotype in the English cocker spaniel and golden retriever. Also, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has announced it was investigating a link between increased

Leptospirosis in dogs and cats

In recent years, there seems to have been a global jump in dogs diagnosed with leptospirosis. Regrettably, whether one considers leptospirosis "emerging," "endemic," or a combination of the two, this pathogen is an ongoing global One Health concern. Importantly, leptospirosis in dogs is almost entirely "vaccine preventable." As such, client communication to inform risk associated with leptospirosis and prevention strategies are critical. Education on leptospirosis prevention should be tailored based on regional and lifestyle exposure risk. Vaccination is available against the four common pathogenic leptospires (Canicola, Pomona, Icterohaemorrhagiae, Grippotyphosa). Ideally, vaccination is administered at the first puppy exam (eight weeks or older, and repeated two to four weeks later), and then annually to ensure vaccination coverage as per the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) vaccination guidelines.

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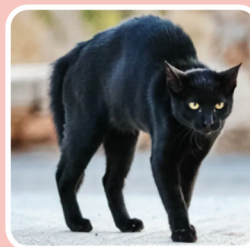
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Fearful cats also express other problematic behavior: Socialization important already at early stages of life

Science Daily, November 2022



Highlights

- Fearfulness strongly correlated with aggression and excessive grooming
- Irregular visits to a veterinarian were associated with aggression
- Highly human sociable cats had more excessive grooming than less sociable cats
- Poor socialization was associated with fearfulness

Researchers have discovered a number of mutual connections between feline fearfulness, aggression and excessive grooming. Identifying such connections can provide means for preventing problematic behavior. In a recent survey the socialisation of cats with humans was associated with fearfulness. Cats who had come into contact with unfamiliar adults and children under 12 weeks of age only a few times or not at all were more fearful than cats who met strangers on a weekly or daily basis. Fearful cats also received, on average, higher scores for litterbox issues, aggression and excessive grooming. The survey included more than 120 statements used to score feline traits. Interestingly, short- and long-haired Landrace Cats differ from each other, even though both can be born in the same litter. Short-haired Landrace Cats were more fearful than long-haired cats, while long-haired individuals expressed more aggression toward humans

VET THYRO

Levothyroxine Sodium IP 0.2 mg & 0.6 mg

