

HIP DYSPLASIA IN LARGE DOG BREEDS

- What is Hip Dysplasia
- Basic information
- Susceptibility
- Warning signs and Treatment options



What is Hip Dysplasia?

Hip dysplasia can happen when a dog's hip joints develop abnormally, causing the ball and socket of the joint to move abnormally relative to one another. Permanent osteoarthritis develops in the joints and can cause chronic pain for dogs.

The first signs you may notice if your dog has hip dysplasia include reluctance and difficulty getting up, moving, running, jumping, and playing.



Basic Information

- About 16% of dogs have hip dysplasia
- Genetics and environmental factors can cause hip dysplasia
- Hip dysplasia causes chronic pain for dogs, the pain can worsen in cold, wet conditions
- Hip Dysplasia can develop in both puppies and older dogs



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What makes large dog breeds more susceptible to hip dysplasia?

Lifestyle factors such as improper weight and an unbalanced diet can cause dogs to get hip dysplasia.

However, the excessive growth rate of large dog breeds make them more susceptible to hip dysplasia than smaller breeds.



Warning Signs and Treatment Options

Signs that your dog might show if they have hip dysplasia are acute pain after exercise, reluctance to jump, walk, climb steps, move, and play, scuffing their feet when walking, moving their hind legs together, and muscle wasting in their hind legs.

Glucosamine and chondroitin supplements are frequently recommended for prevention and treatment of pain and inflammation associated with hip dysplasia.

For young dogs with hip dysplasia, medications and surgical interventions are an option for treatment. For older dogs, medications, physical therapy, and pain relief are options for treatment.

Sources

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