



Seward County Kennel Club

A CLUB FOR PERSONS INTERESTED IN DOGS AND THE SPORT OF DOGS.

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Information for the newsletter, including brags, needs to be submitted by the first week of the month to be included in the next newsletter. Please email submissions to the editor.

CAN MY DOG HAVE A STROKE?



Like their owners, dogs can be affected by a number of emergency health conditions, including strokes. While strokes are less common in dogs than they are in humans, they are equally as serious. Witnessing your beloved dog having a stroke is a frightening experience – and it's important to know what to do if this occurs.

What is a Stroke?

According to the National Stroke Association, a stroke occurs when there is a disruption of blood flow to the brain, depriving brain cells of their oxygen supply. This often

happens suddenly and without warning. The extent of the damage and its impact on the dog varies depending on the part of the brain affected.

In both humans and dogs, strokes are typically classified as either ischemic or hemorrhagic. "An ischemic stroke occurs when a vessel that supplies blood to a part of the brain becomes blocked, and damage to the brain tissue occurs," says Dr. Jennifer Coates, a veterinarian who serves on the advisory board for Pet Life Today. "In a hemorrhagic stroke, a vessel in the brain bleeds, which leads to swelling and increased pressure," she adds. Both types of stroke deprive the brain of blood and oxygen, which causes brain cells to die. Ischemic strokes are more common than hemorrhagic strokes in both people and dogs.

The severity of the stroke depends on how long the brain goes without blood flow. Dr. John McCue, a staff neurologist at the Animal Medical Center in New York City, says that when a dog has a massive, catastrophic stroke in a certain part of the brain, he may not bounce back because essential parts of the brain have been damaged. This can result in a lower quality of life and can sometimes be fatal. But the good news is that a stroke is not always life-altering. Long-term prognosis is good in dogs who are treated early and given the supportive care they need.

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NEXT MEETING June 20, 2019

Dog Lover's Day!! Meeting 6:30pm

In the park by the 4-H Building

Bring your dog, a chair and a dish to share!

MEETING MINUTES

April 18, 2019 SCKC - Board Meeting

Board meeting called to order by Tabitha Dvorak at 7:10pm. Board members present were Tabitha Dvorak, Cindy Hill, Mary Bristol, Chris Corum, Linda Soukup and Morgan Ehlers.

March minutes read motion made to accept minutes as read Cindy Hill 1st and Linda Soukup 2nd motion past.

Treasure report was read and motion made to accept treasure's report. Cindy Hill 1st and Linda Soukup 2nd. Nancy Sedlacek paid family membership for 10years.

No new business discussed.

Motion for adjournment Cindy Hill 1st and Linda Soukup 2nd.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20pm.

April 18, 2019 - SCKC Regular Meeting

Meeting called to order at 7:31pm by Tabitha Dvorak. Members present Mary Bristol, Chris Corum, Tabitha Dvorak, Cindy Hill, Diane Nitz, Vicki Nolte, Linda Riley, Pat Schindler, Linda Soukup, Morgan Ehlers, and Lori Billewillms.

March minutes read. Pat Schindler made motion to approve meeting minutes. Linda Soukup 2nd. Motion passed.

Treasure report was read and 1st quarter report was submitted to members. Pat Schindler made motion to approve Treasurer's report, Linda Soukup 2nd. Motion passed. Treasurer also reported that Nancy Sedlacek has paid family membership for the next 10 years.

Auditing Committee reported 1 correction to be made, to delete an out-dated check from the treasurer's records. The check was to the AKC and not cashed from 2015. Pat Schindler made motion to delete check from Treasurer's records. Diane Nitz 2nd. Motion passed.

Trophy Report- Everything taken care of, nothing new to report.

Chief Ring Steward- Tanya Williams was not present but wanted to express that inside ring stewards and volunteers are needed. Vicki Nolte made motion to bring back the boy scouts and give donation for their time. Pat Schindler 2nd. Motion passed.

Fun Match- Prizes for groups are Thirty One bags donated by Tabitha Dvorak. Judges are all lined up. There are also 8 Fun Match pre-entries. Ribbons are ordered as well. They will have the date printed on them and rosettes will have 3 steamers.

Membership- 2nd reading for Reynaldo Montelongo and Marissa Nelson. They are interested in obedience, conformation, agility, rally, agility, and barn hunt. Vote taken by members and vote was unanimous. Welcome Reynaldo and Marissa.

Newsletter Report- Black and white newsletter pages are 20 cents each and color is 62 cents at Kinkos. Cindy Hill would charge 40 cents for colored newsletters. Diane Nitz made motion to have colored prints and Linda Soukup 2nd. Motion passed.

Obedience Report- Class going well.

Show Committee- Vicki Nolte reports the preparation for show is going good! Judges' cups done, doing poop raffle again this year, \$25 dollar cash prize. Members and volunteers welcome to come and help set up Friday April 26 starting 8am.

Tabitha had a volunteer contact her looking for community service hours for a diversion class and she will let him know the time of set up and take down.

"M" Porter will be singing the national anthem again this year.

There are 3 vendors signed up for this year located in Ag Hall: Jewelry, Delores who has printed t-shirts, and a gal who makes homemade candy. Pete the photographer will also have a booth.

Judges dinner Friday night will be at La Coretta at 6:30 and Café on the Square Saturday night. Judges rooms are booked at the Cobblestone hotel.

Peewee show judge has to be an AKC judge. Peewee judge found and is lined up.

Vicki will be getting a hold of Fred to make sure he can move excess tables and chairs out of the building to maximize the space in the Ag Hall.

Lunch stand Donna Quintana will be here again this year.

Old Business- No old business.

New Business- Cindy Hill reported that she had to turn away many people for reserve grooming do to limited space in Ag Hall. Questioned if we could do a grooming tent for outside for next year and what insurance the club would need. The cost to rent harvest hall \$1200. Cindy is going to call about the insurance logistics and report back next meeting.

Grand Island Kennel Club wants meet and talk about to combining shows with them for next year. Vicki Nolte offered to set up a meeting with them after the dog show. Also discussed were other locations and/or changing the date of the show. Morgan Ehlers will contact Holthus Convention Center in York. Topic tabled till next meeting.

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Diane Nitz and 2nd by Cindy Hill. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.

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Dogs can also experience a Fibrocartilagenous Embolism (FCE), more commonly known as a "spinal stroke." This occurs when a piece of an intervertebral disc – the cushion that separates each of the dog's vertebrae – breaks off and causes an obstruction of one of the blood vessels in the spinal cord.

Dr. Gary Richter, owner and medical director of Montclair Veterinary Hospital in Oakland, California, explains that spinal strokes often cause partial or complete paralysis of one or more limbs, depending on where in the spinal cord they occur. He also points out that not all strokes are definitively diagnosed. "It usually takes an MRI to reach a definitive diagnosis – something that isn't affordable for all pet owners," he says. "There are probably a lot of 'mini' strokes that don't get diagnosed."

Signs of a Stroke

The signs of a stroke can be subtle and hard to notice. There are no warning signs to indicate that a stroke is about to happen, and Dr. Coates explains that a dog can go from "seemingly normal" to "severely impaired" very quickly. If left untreated, the problem can worsen in a short period of time. The longer treatment is put off, the greater the chance for permanent neurological damage.

Common signs that your dog might be having a stroke include:

- Loss of balance
- Head tilt
- Pacing, circling, or turning the wrong way when called
- Abnormal eye movements or facial expressions
- Impaired vision
- Loss of control over bladder and bowels
- Vomiting
- Collapse, loss of consciousness
- Acute weakness and/or paralysis in one or more limbs

However, it is important to note that other conditions can cause similar signs. Idiopathic Vestibular Syndrome, in particular, is a common condition of older dogs that can mimic the signs of a stroke. The vestibular system is a delicate array of structures located in the inner ear and brain, which helps dogs maintain balance and coordinate the position of their head, eyes, and legs.

According to Dr. Jerry Klein, Chief Veterinary Officer of the American Kennel Club, any disruption to the vestibular system can cause symptoms such as head tilt, loss of balance, falling or rolling to one side, circling, trouble walking, and abnormal eye movements. Because disruptions to the inner ear can make dogs extremely dizzy, pet owners may also notice signs such as nausea, vomiting, and loss of appetite. Although these signs can be frightening, the good news is that most dogs recover from vestibular disease. Dr. Klein notes that while some may continue to have a head tilt, most dogs regain their sense of balance and do just fine.

What Causes a Stroke?

According to Dr. McCue, ischemic and hemorrhagic strokes occur most commonly in older dogs. Spinal strokes are more common in larger, more active breeds.

Strokes also tend to occur more often in dogs that have concurrent health problems. According to the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA), dogs are at greater risk for having a stroke if they are also affected by other illnesses such as heart disease, diabetes, kidney disease, Cushing's disease, and Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, among others. While your dog's previous medical history may provide some clues, about 50 percent of canine strokes have no specific underlying cause.

Unfortunately, there is no way to prevent a stroke from happening in your dog, but keeping your pet healthy can make a stroke less likely. Regular veterinary checkups are especially important because early detection and treatment of underlying diseases can reduce your dog's risk of having a stroke.

What Should I Do If My Dog Has a Stroke?

If you suspect your dog has had a stroke, seek veterinary care immediately. If your dog has dark red mucous membranes – in places such as his gums or inner eyelids – this can indicate a lack of oxygenation, according to AAHA. If this occurs, quick treatment is essential to restore proper blood flow. Dr. Richter also advises keeping your dog calm and preventing any injuries that could occur from falling or hitting his head.

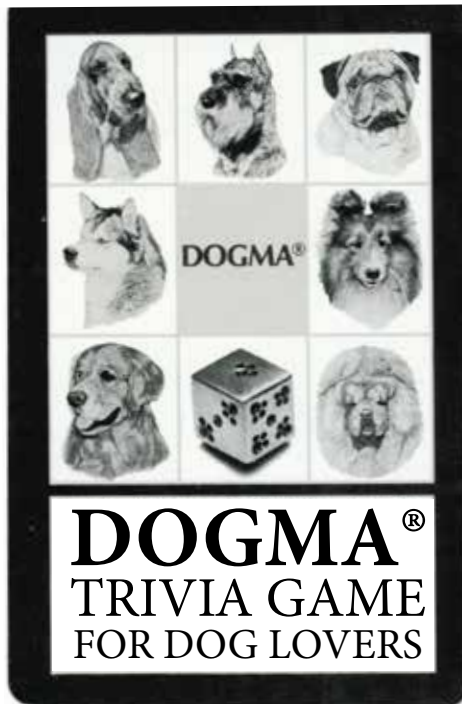
Proper diagnosis of a stroke is crucial in order to ensure your dog receives appropriate treatment. Your veterinarian will perform a full physical examination and may recommend additional testing such as blood work, urinalysis, or X-rays to rule out other underlying problems.

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If you would like to receive this newsletter via email, please contact Cindy Hill at cnolte2@yahoo.com

1. What 13th-century saint preached kindness to animals?
2. Which AKC Spaniel breed is required to point and not flush birds in the field?
3. According to the AKC Breed Standard, a Pomeranian may weigh as little as what weight?
4. What 13th-century merchant of Venice wrote of the fierce Mastiff dogs he encountered during his travels to Tibet?
5. *Along Came a Dog* is a book by Meindert DeJong about a lonesome dog who befriends a little

- a. kitten
 - b. hen
 - c. old man
6. The Maltese is known as "Ye Ancient Dogge of _____."
 - a. Kings
 - b. Malta
 - c. Throne Rooms



1. Is England free from Rabies?
2. What AKC breed is the mascot for the Cincinnati Reds baseball team?
3. Elizabeth Taylor and Roddy McDowell starred in what movie about a dog?
4. What is the Dog-watch?
5. Which ancient sheepdog was named after the province of Brie, France?
6. What does the Scottish superstition about a stranger coming to the house mean?
 - a. a bad omen
 - b. good luck
 - c. a new friendship

Answers: Left card 1. St. Francis of Assisi 2. the Brittany 3. 3 pounds 4. Marco Polo 5. b 6. b. Right card 1. Yes 2. the St. Bernard 3. "Lassie Come Home" 4. one of two watches aboard a ship, each of two hours, between 4 and 8 AM 5. the Briard 6. c.

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Because strokes are often related to heart disease, your veterinarian may recommend a full cardiac workup, which can include tests such as an electrocardiogram, chest X-rays, or cardiac ultrasound. In order to definitively diagnose a stroke, an MRI or CAT scan may be recommended to rule out other brain diseases that can cause similar clinical signs.

Will My Dog Recover?

Your dog's ability to recover from a stroke depends on several factors, including the type of stroke, the severity, any underlying medical conditions, and how quickly your dog received appropriate treatment. Some dogs will begin to show signs of improvement in just a few weeks, while others may need more time. Unfortunately, some dogs will never fully recover from a stroke and, in some cases, the stroke or its associated complications can be fatal. But "with appropriate veterinary care and a dedicated owner," Dr. Coates says, "many dogs can go on to live happily for quite a long period of time after having a stroke."

Elizabeth Racine, DVM | akc.org

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