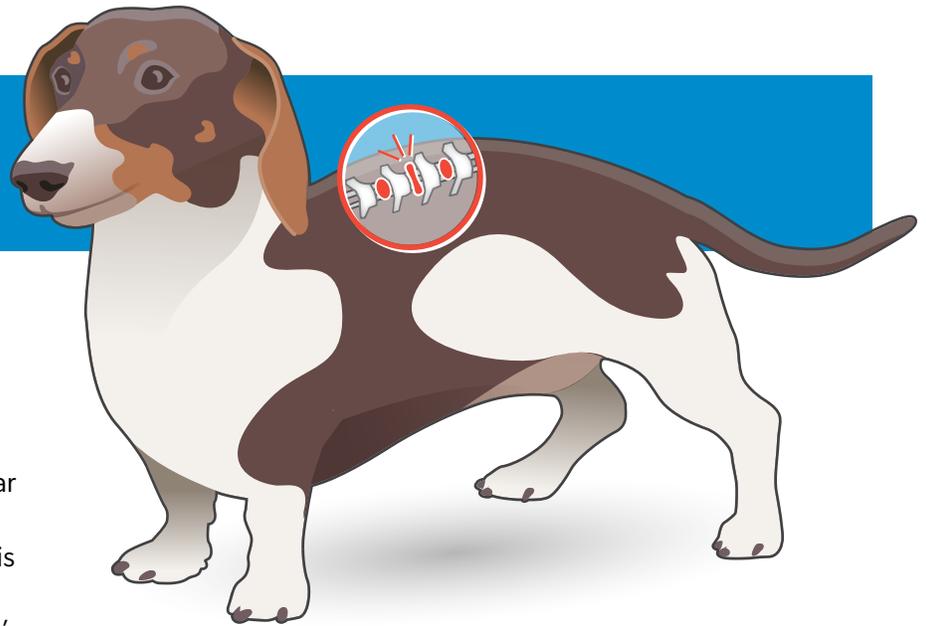


WHAT IS IVDD?



Intervertebral Disc Disease (IVDD) is a painful syndrome that occurs when one or more spinal discs separate from the bone of the spine, degenerating and causing pain in the neck or back. This sudden disc rupture is similar to a slipped disc in a human. Although usually occurring after a fall or small jump, the rupture is actually caused by chronic disc degeneration. In more advanced cases, this can lead to a dog's inability to walk or move.

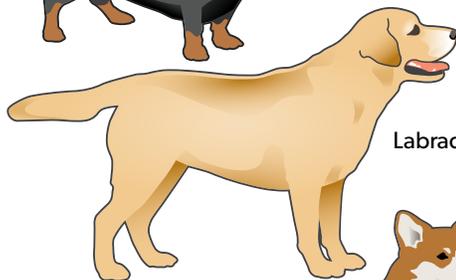
What Breeds get IVDD?

Breeds Commonly Affected:

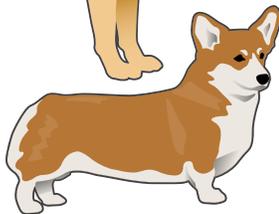


Dachshund

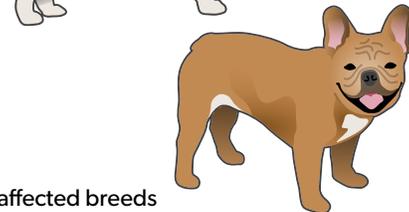
40
Breeds
Affected



Labrador Retriever



Corgi

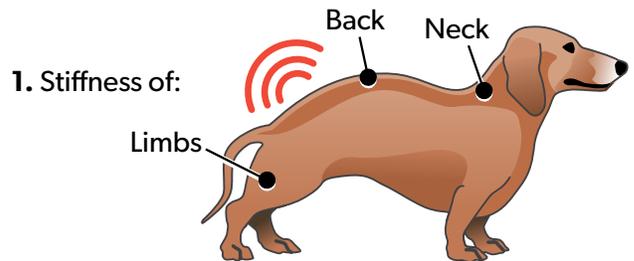


French
Bulldog

3-6 yrs
Age of
Onset

Other commonly affected breeds include Beagle, Bassett Hound, Cocker Spaniel, Pekingese, German Shepherd, Bulldog, Poodle, and Shih Tzu.

IVDD Common Symptoms



1. Stiffness of:

2. Obvious weakness or pain

3. Back/muscle spasms

4. Incontinence

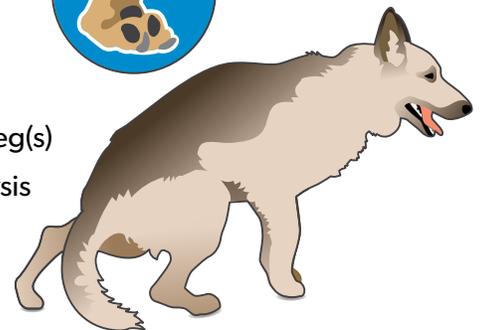
5. Difficulty with paw placement or knuckling under



6. Dragging rear leg(s)

7. Hind end paralysis

8. Impaired gait



Progression

Symptoms can emerge gradually or be intermittent or sudden. Early intervention is crucial in order to minimize the possibility of permanent nerve damage.



HOW CAN I HELP MY DOG WITH IVDD?



Assistive Equipment

- Lifting harnesses provide rear support
- Back Brace to alleviate pain and support the spine and surrounding structures
- Wheelchair for rehabilitative care and improved mobility



Professional Care

- Seek Veterinary care to locate injury source
- Dog may require extended crate rest and inflammatory meds
- IVDD surgery followed by rehabilitative care often recommended



In-Home Support

- Seek Veterinary care to locate injury source
- Dog may require extended crate rest and inflammatory meds
- IVDD surgery followed by rehabilitative care often recommended

Can IVDD Reoccur?

With or without surgery a dog can experience IVDD flareups more than once. In fact, dachshunds are ten times more likely to experience a recurrence than any other breed. Keeping your dog at a healthy weight, limiting jumping on or off furniture, along with using a back brace to support the spine can help to reduce placing added stress on their spine.



BENEFITS OF A DOG BACK BRACE

A back brace helps to support and stabilize your dog's spine and helps to alleviate the pressure in areas of injury. When selecting a back brace for your pet, look for one that supports both the spine and surrounding epaxial muscles. Proper back support can help to limit the movement of the spine, which decreases pain and discomfort by stabilizing your dog's spinal column. Back braces can be particularly helpful when worn during recovery and may also be worn as a preventive method before IVDD presents itself. Moreover, Back Braces offer your dog the ability to be more active and safely move, jump, and enjoy life.

