

Hip Dysplasia

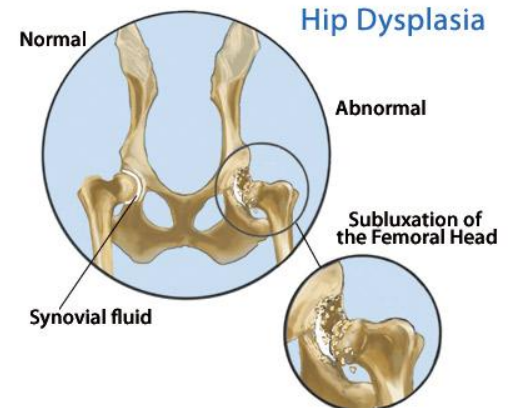
Hip dysplasia is a very common condition in dogs, although many owners are unaware their dog has it! It is possible for any animal to have hip dysplasia but it is more prevalent in larger breed dogs. Please do not hesitate to ask if you have questions or would like more information.

What is Hip Dysplasia?

- ~ Abnormal growth or development of the hips
 - Ball and socket do not fit together smoothly
- ~ Genetics are the primary cause
- ~ Larger breed dogs are at a higher risk – due to their size!
- ~ **Develops during the growing phase of puppies**

Symptoms:

- ~ Discomfort, pain or weakness in hips
- ~ Difficulty getting up or down on back legs
- ~ Decrease in activity
- ~ **Most dogs will NOT show any symptoms until they are older** – after years of using poorly formed hips and arthritis has developed



How do I know if my dog has Hip Dysplasia?

- ~ X-Rays of the hips are the only way to definitively diagnose
- ~ Dog may need to be sedated for proper positioning of hips
- ~ Screening X-rays in large breed dogs at the time of spay or neuter or before 2 years of age
- ~ The earlier it is diagnosed, the more options there are for management of condition

Is there Treatment?

Pain Management: most common form of treatment

- ~ There is a wide variety of pain medications, anti-inflammatory's, and joint supplements available to make your pet comfortable – consult with Dr. Logue before starting any
- ~ Once started on medication, dogs will need to continue long term
- ~ Laser Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Massage can also help manage the pain

FHO (Femoral Head Osteotomy)

- ~ Surgical procedure to remove the femoral head (the “ball” portion of the joint)
- ~ Scar tissue forms a “false joint” after 6-8 weeks of restricted activity and recovery
- ~ Only for smaller dogs – under 50 pounds

Total Hip Replacement

- ~ Surgical procedure to replace the bad hip with a prosthetic hip
- ~ Highly invasive and complicated surgery
- ~ Must be performed by a **Board-Certified Orthopedic Surgeon**
- ~ Only for older dogs that have established degenerative hip changes (arthritis)

