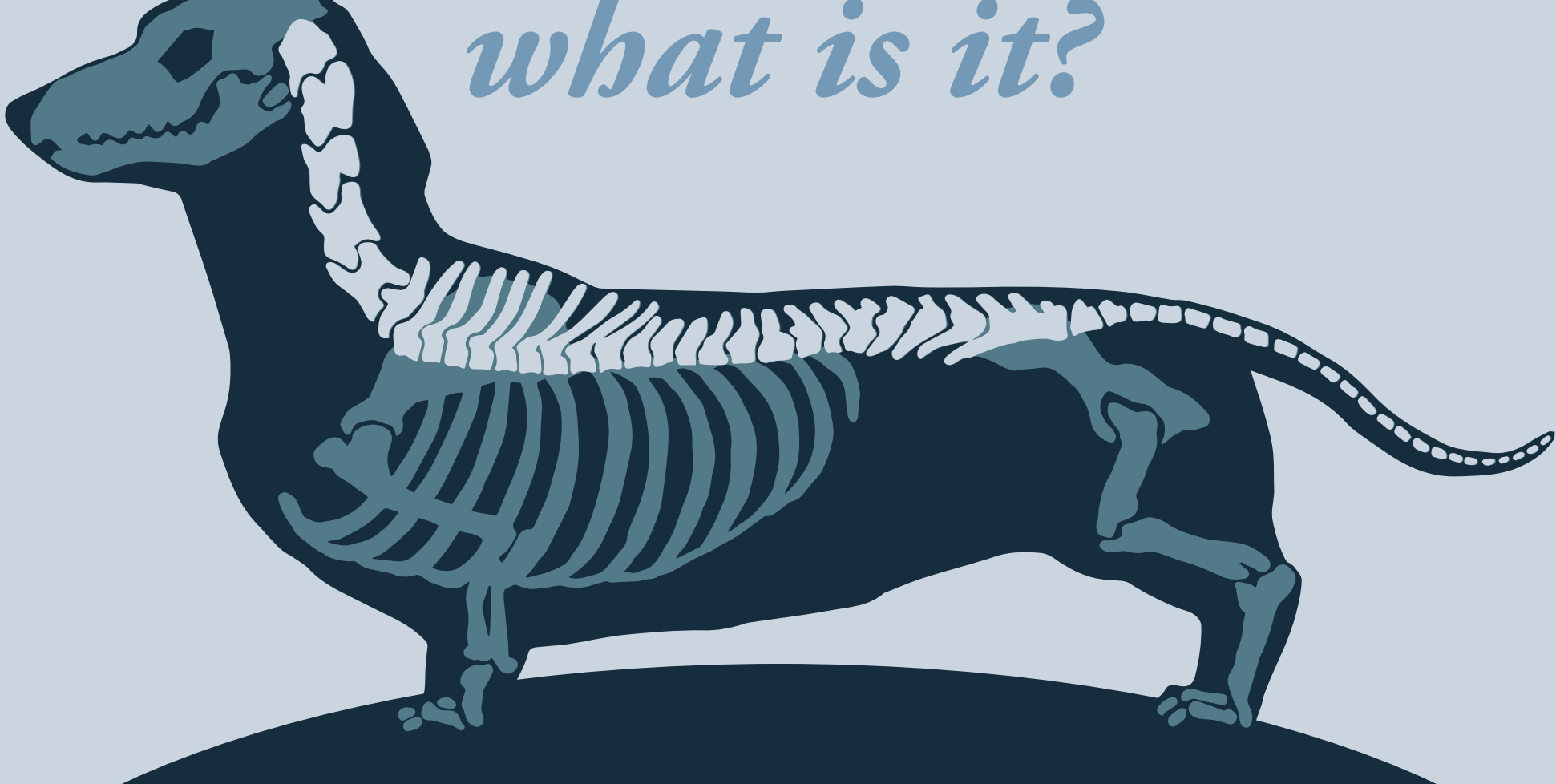


IVDD

what is it?



Intervertebral Disc Disease

IVDD makes the cushions between the vertebrae age prematurely.

As the pulpy centers harden and degenerate, they can **herniate** (protrude, bulge, or burst into the spinal column).

This causes



pain



reduced neurological function
(difficulty walking or voiding the bladder)



even paralysis.


With proper treatment, many dogs recover and even walk again.

Conservative



- Disc material is removed
- PT at vet's approval during 6 weeks strict crate rest
- Pain management
- Drugs reduce inflammation
- 8 weeks strict crate rest
- Physio when crate rest is complete
- Pain management

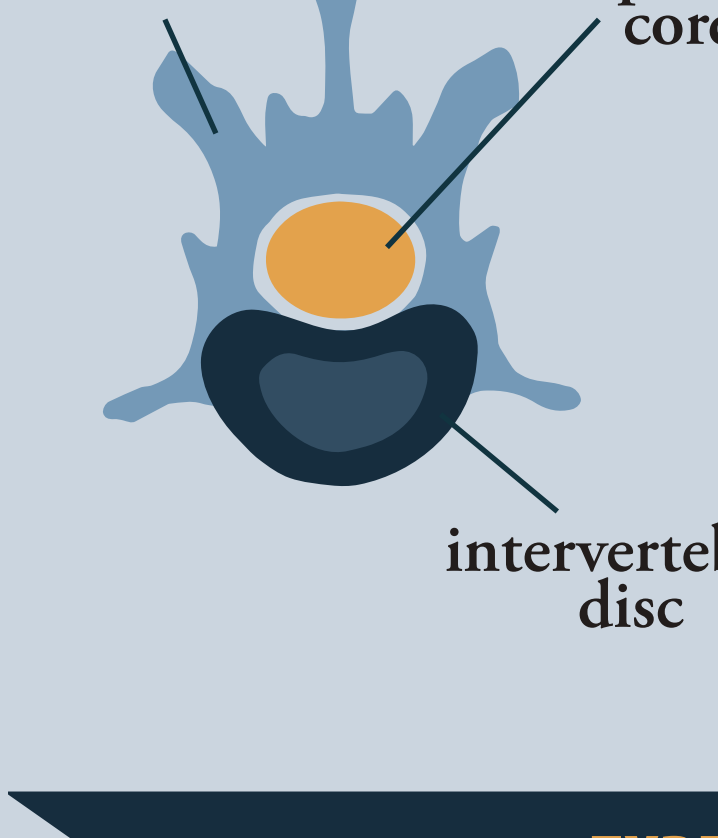
Surgery



- Disc material is removed
- PT at vet's approval during 6 weeks strict crate rest
- Pain management
- Drugs reduce inflammation
- 8 weeks strict crate rest
- Physio when crate rest is complete
- Pain management

* Owner education is key! *

Healthy

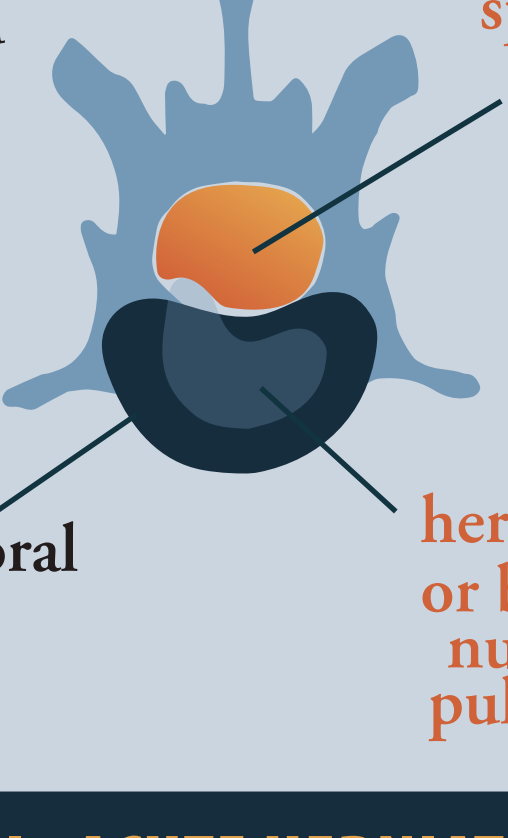


vertebra

spinal cord

intervertebral disc

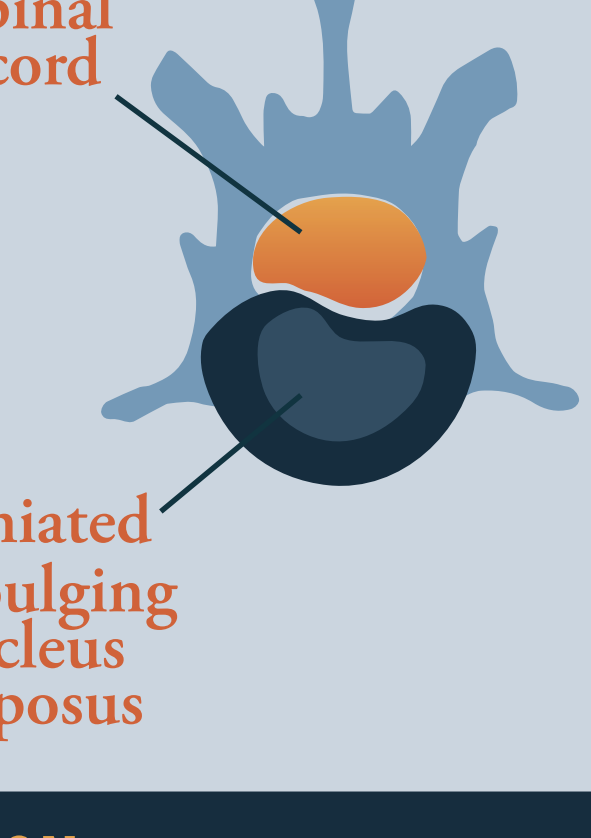
Type I



compressed spinal cord

herniated or bulging nucleus pulposus


Type II



compressed spinal cord

herniated or bulging nucleus pulposus

TYPE I - ACUTE HERNIATION



usually **small dogs** at any age

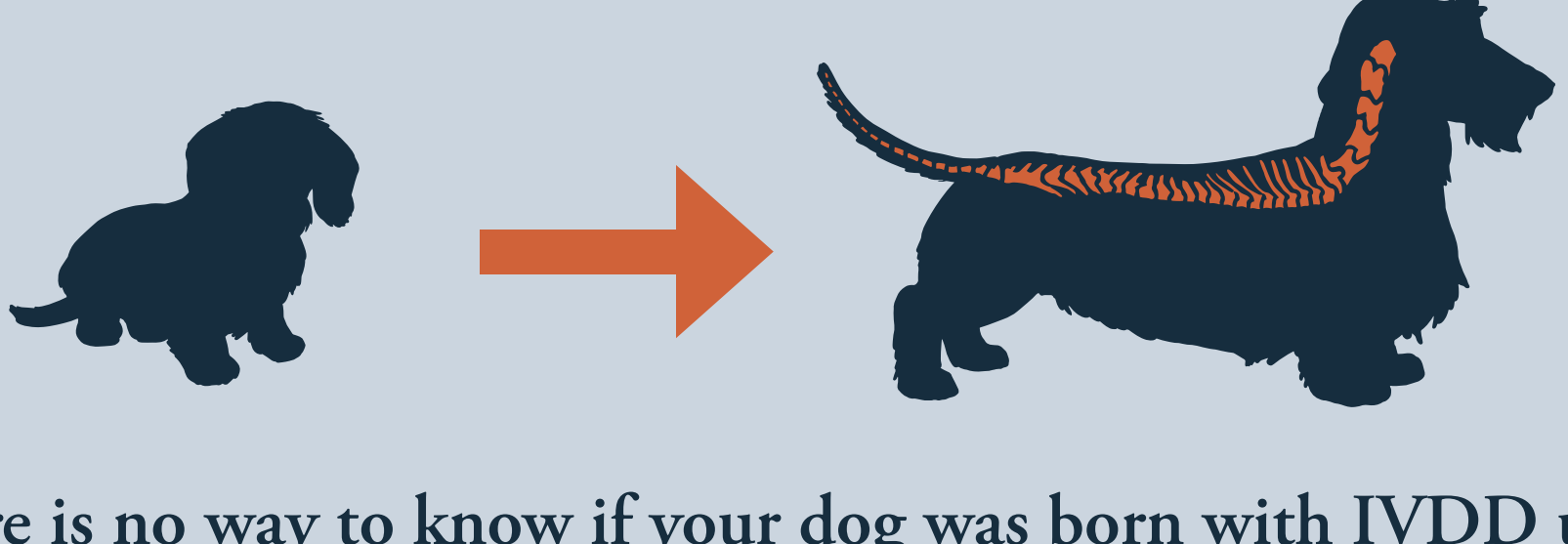
Commonly basset hounds, pekingese, chihuahuas, French bulldogs, shih tzus, beagles, poodles, pomeranians, corgis.

But **dachshunds** are **10 times more likely** than any other breed to have it.

Some authorities say **1** in **4** dachshunds will develop IVDD.



Premature aging of discs can begin by **age 1** and a disc episode will often occur by **age 3-7**.



There is no way to know if your dog was born with IVDD until the first signs of pain with a bulging or herniated disc. For this reason, most owners are blind-sided by an episode.

TYPE II - GRADUAL PROTRUSION



usually **large elderly dogs**

such as dobermans, German shepherds, and labrador retrievers.