Dodgerslist.com

IVDD Primer - Life with IVDD

chelseacrutchley.com

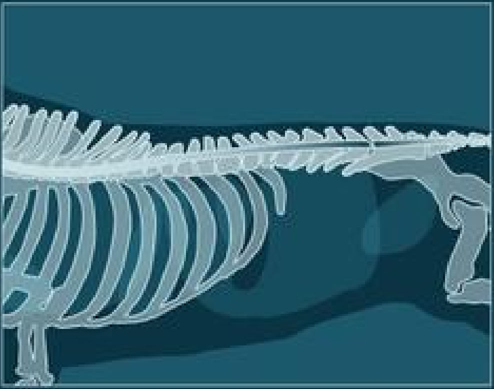
IVDD

can my dog live with it?

You and your dog have survived a disc herniation.

Your dog may or may not have full mobility now, but crate rest is done and pain is gone.

They are happy. You are stronger.



Or perhaps your vet has identified IVDD early, and you have not experienced a herniation yet.

How can you minimize the chance of a herniation in the future?

Keep in mind...

a dog with calcified discs *may never* experience a herniation in their lifetime!

Some may only have **ONE** *episode, others may have* **SEVERAL.** *There's no way to know for certain.*

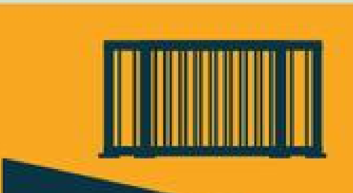
WHAT *YOU* CAN DO

KEEP THEIR WEIGHT HEALTHY

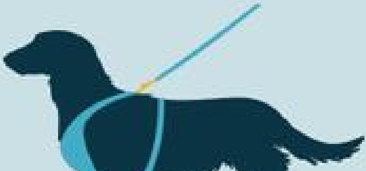
it reduces back stress

KEEP THEIR TEETH HEALTHY

to reduce procedures that require sedation, like x-rays and dental work



INVEST IN SHALLOW



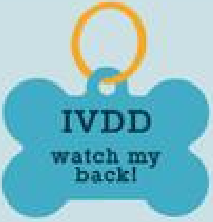
SWAP THEIR COLLAR

RAMPS AND TODDLER GATES TO BLOCK STAIRS

DIY ramps? there are how-to's online!

FOR A HARNESS

force is distributed across their chest instead of at their neck



ADVERTISE THEIR CONDITION WITH A TAG, BANDANA, CRATE STICKER

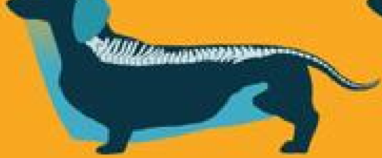
a yellow ribbon also indicates complex needs

SUPPLEMENTS?

some vets recommend omega3 or glucosamine, but others don't believe that it helps the spine

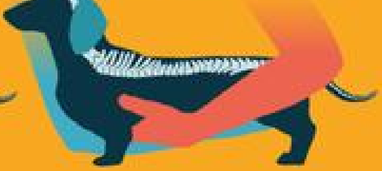
1

support the back under the pelvis



2

support the front under the chest



ALWAYS PICK THEM UP AND CARRY THEM PROPERLY, HORIZONALLY SUPPORTING THEIR SPINE

be prepared to teach your vet and techs to do this, too!

ALSO MINIMIZE:

- jumping
- tricks like “beg” that make them sit up vertically
- zig-zag running or sudden changes of direction
- tug o’ war or shaking toys
- rough play with other dogs

🚫 chiropractic care

Is your dog **bored** with these restrictions?

- enroll in nose training
- play games or buy treat-hiding puzzles that rely on sense of smell
- teach them new tricks to keep their mind active

Are you considering getting a breed of dog that is prone to IVDD?

find a reputable breeder

A breeder who is motivated by improving the breed rather than profit will do their best not to breed dogs with a history of the disease in their bloodline.

Do your research.

This may maximize your chances of getting a healthy dog.

adopt an older dog

Statistics show that disc calcification can start by **age 1**, and a first herniation will often occur between **age 3 -7.** It is possible, though not an assurance, that an older dog with no back problems yet may not develop them in the future.

In addition, older dogs are often overlooked at shelters and you would be giving them a loving home they might not have otherwise!

THERE ARE NO GUARANTEES
your dog will NOT develop
IVDD.

But if it happens,
you know it is
SURVIVABLE.

Whether they
RUN,
SCOOT,
or
WHEEL,
your dog
can live a

happy life.

They aren't afraid of what **might happen** one day.

You don't have to be, either.

you have completed the **"IVDD Primer"**
please share this information with another dog owner.

thank you for reading!

This information is intended for general knowledge only and is not a substitute for professional veterinary advice, diagnosis or treatment, nor is it intended to replace consultation with a qualified veterinarian.