Chondrodysplasia

In brief

Chondrodysplasia encompasses a group of skeletal disorders caused by abnormalities in cartilage growth and ossification, which manifest as disproportionate dwarfism of the limbs. The causative mutation was first identified in Norwegian Elkhounds and later in Karelian Bear Dogs and Chinooks. The disease is inherited in an autosomal recessive manner.

Clinical overview

Dogs affected by chondrodysplasia are 10 to 15 cm shorter in height than other individuals of the same breed. Affected dogs have short limbs and support more of their weight on their front limbs, resulting in the outward bend noted in the forelimbs of these dogs. Disproportionate growth (short limbs, normal sized body and head) can be observed as early as one week of age.

References

Online database
Online Mendelian Inheritance in Animals, OMIA (http://omia.angis.org.au/), Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Sydney.

Scientific articles