Persistent Müllerian Duct Syndrome, (PMDS)

In brief

Persistent Müllerian duct syndrome (PMDS, pseudohermaphroditism) is a disorder of sexual development affecting male Miniature Schnauzers. PMDS is characterised by Müllerian duct derivatives (e.g., uterus) developing in otherwise externally normal-appearing males. The condition is inherited in a sex-limited, autosomal recessive manner, i.e., the disease only manifests in males, although it is inherited via females.

Clinical overview

The males affected with PMDS appear externally normal, but they have a uterus, cervix, part of the vagina, and fallopian tubes. Approximately 50% of PMDS-affected males are cryptorchid (absence of one or both testes from the scrotum). PMDS is characterised by sterility or subfertility, but affected males that are unilateral cryptorchids have sired litters. Aged PMDS dogs may develop pyometra (uterine infection) or a Sertoli cell tumour.

References

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

Scientific articles