

Demyelinating polyneuropathy in the Miniature Schnauzer

In 2014, with collaborative efforts between the University of Bristol, University College London, and the Animal Health Trust, the mutation causing demyelinating polyneuropathy was identified and a test is now available at both the University of Bristol and the Animal Health Trust.

Demyelinating polyneuropathy is an autosomal recessive disease affecting Miniature Schnauzers, first characterised in 2008 (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18809183>). Dogs affected with demyelinating polyneuropathy show clinical signs which can include continuous episodes of regurgitation, inspiratory stridor (noisy breathing on inhalation) and subtle exercise intolerance, caused by a reduction in muscle strength and sensory nerve responses due to nerve cell demyelination (loss of the substance known as myelin from the nerve sheaths). The onset of disease is from 3 months of age and clinical signs are progressive.

Although this unpleasant condition is rare we feel there is significant value in offering the DNA test, which will be priced at £40 + VAT. Sample kits can be ordered through our Webshop (<http://www.ahtdnatesting.co.uk/>) from 1st November.