The Truth Regarding Colitis in Canines by D Swain

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Colitis occurs when the colon becomes inflamed. The condition is very common in dogs that have irritable bowel syndrome. The disease can easily reduce your dog's quality of life if it isn't managed correctly, and it can't be cured entirely. Many dog breeds have an increased risk when it comes to developing colitis. Boxers frequently have problems with this condition.

Colitis can very easily develop whenever dogs suffer from an inflammatory bowel disease. You should know that the problem can easily be caused by parasites such as whipworms. Infections by bacteria and fungus may also be the reason. Some of the other common causes of this condition include allergies, dietary issues, and excessive stress.

If your dog has colitis, then he will most likely have recurring bouts of diarrhea. Dogs can really have a difficult time when it comes to passing stool. You may notice him straining to defecate due to the pain involved. Stool that is passed may have mucus or blood in it. Excessive gas is also common.

Biopsy of the colon can be useful when it comes to diagnosing colitis. The veterinarian may also check your dog's stool's for the presence of fungi or parasites. Unfortunately, vets sometimes won't find the reason why the condition occurs. It may be necessary for your dog to go on a strict diet in order to eliminate all possibilities. You will have to ensure that your dog eats only certain foods during this time.

A treatment plan will be developed once the underlying cause is determined. Inflammatory bowel disease is usually to blame, so dogs would need to increase the amount of fiber they received in their diet. In some cases, dogs will only need to change their diet to manage it.

If a bacterial infection is the problem, then your dog will need to take antibiotics. Colitis in dogs also causes inflammation. Anti-inflammatory medications may be necessary. The condition may also be managed through the use of immunosuppressive medications.

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D Swain - About Author:
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