

Flocks

Bergamasco News

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Bergamasco Sheepdog Club of America
USA

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FSS/AKC breed seminar June 30th July 1st 2007 Barto, PA

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International CFC Show September 2007 FCI Judging

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- Seminar:

FSS/AKC BSCOA organizes bergamasco breed seminar June 30th July 1st 2007 Barto, PA

Saturday AKC judges and board directors attended the Bergamasco breed seminar by the Bergamasco Sheepdog Club of America. □The AKC received certification of the attendance of these members making them certified for the breed. □Ugo from Artos Bergamascos received his CGC Certification.

Sunday: eleven Bergamascos participated successfully in herding trial, with amazing overall instinct reaction to the flocks.

Zeus from Silverpatori won best in show at the match show.

Events included obedience, agility, fly ball, herding and conformation

□□Thank you everyone for the turnout and presentation of your beautiful dogs.





Clothos herding the sheep, Ugo rounding the flock, Onyx on the agility circuit and Buffa ruffa tending to the herd.

- Shows:

International CFC Show September 2007 FCI Judging

Congratulations to "Ugo" (CFC Elite Ch, ARBA Ch, NAKC Supreme Grd Ch, Rarities Intlí Ch Jupiter Dell Albera Silver Rebel)

FCI Show (FÈdÈration Cynologique Internationale), hosted by Canine Federation of Canada

October 6-7, 2007 Laval, QuÈbec

Show 1: Best of Breed and Herding Group 1st

Both under all-breed FCI judge Jean louis GRUNHEID of France
Reserve Best in Show

Under all-breed FCI judge Ms. Soile Bister of Finland

Show 2: Best of Breed and Herding Group 1st

Both under all breed FCI judge Ms. Soile Bister of Finland

Show 3: Best of Breed and Herding Group 4th

Both under FCI judge Mr. Miroslaw Redlicki of Poland



Rarities North American Kennel Club end of year show November 2007

Many thanks to Gasparo, Donnegal, Zeus, Ugo, Lucianna, Pino, Gus, Essa, and our two new little puppies for supporting our yr end Rarities show....It was a super entry for the Bergamasco.

Congratulations to Gasparo for his group one placements and to Ugo for #3 placement in the Supreme Ch show...and to our two little 3month old puppies, who had no idea what a leash was for their courage and group one placements..

Jim and Donnegal received a very nice certificate, jacket and a well received applause from all the Rarities folks.

Bergamasco, USA is here to stay, see you all in 2008!



3 - Events:

MAKC, corded breed event

Going on 12 yrs, Bergamasco/Hungarian Meet and Match Show.

Saturday, November 17, 2007

Bridgewater, New Jersey

JUDGE: Mrs. Carol Richards

Best in show Junior Puppy Bergamasco Hemera from Silverpastori

Best in Show adult Bergamasco Zeus from Silverpastori

Bergamascos win Best in Show for the 3rd year consecutively.

4 - Health:

1- Pyometra

by Donna DeFalcis August 27th 2007

Alert for those folks who have older un spayed females, average 5yrs or older the symptoms of pyometra which is an infection of the uterus. It is a deadly killer if not treated early.

There are two types, **Open** and **Closed**, the deadly being closed since the infection stays in the body and there are no real symptoms or discharge as in an open pyo. Symptoms are drinking water, urination, smell, discharge, lethargic,

depressed, fever..if you have a female who is older in her cycle pre or post her cycle, and is showing any of the above symptoms, even just one, may seem slightly under the weather, take her to a vet and ask for an ultrasound...Blood tests, xray does not always show a pyo, and the vet will just think your dog has a little virus..This is not the case

especially with a closed pyo, in less than 24hrs it can rupture and send poison throughout your dogs body causing death, if you are lucky, and if treated, your dog will survive after a very extensive and costly surgery.

It is better to be a little crazy and demanding, then to loose your dog. I speak from experience, after having two females with Pyo,

2- Long-Term Health Risks and Benefits Associated with Spay / Neuter in Dogs

Laura J. Sanborn, M.S.

May 14, 2007

Precis

At some point, most of us with an interest in dogs will have to consider whether or not to spay / neuter our pet. Tradition holds that the benefits of doing so at an early age outweigh the risks. Often, tradition holds sway in the decision-making process even after countervailing evidence has accumulated.

Ms Sanborn has reviewed the veterinary medical literature in an exhaustive and scholarly treatise, attempting to unravel the complexities of the subject. More than 50 peer-reviewed papers were examined to assess the health impacts of spay / neuter in female and male dogs, respectively. One cannot ignore the findings of increased risk from osteosarcoma, hemangiosarcoma, hypothyroidism, and other less frequently occurring diseases associated with neutering male dogs. It would be irresponsible of the veterinary profession and the pet owning community to fail to weigh the relative costs and benefits of neutering on the animal's health and well-being. The decision for females may be more complex, further emphasizing the need for individualized veterinary medical decisions, not standard operating procedures for all patients.

No sweeping generalizations are implied in this review. Rather, the author asks us to consider all the health and disease information available as individual animals are evaluated. Then, the best decisions should be made accounting for gender, age, breed, and even the specific conditions under which the long-term care, housing and training of the animal will occur.

This important review will help veterinary medical care providers as well as pet owners make informed decisions. Who could ask for more?

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INTRODUCTION

Dog owners in America are frequently advised to spay/neuter their dogs for health reasons. A number of health benefits are cited, yet evidence is usually not cited to support

the alleged health benefits.

When discussing the health impacts of spay/neuter, health risks are often not mentioned. At times, some risks are mentioned, but the most severe risks usually are not.

This article is an attempt to summarize the long-term health risks and benefits associated with spay/neuter in dogs that can be found in the veterinary medical literature. This article will not discuss the impact of spay/neuter on population control, or the impact of spay/neuter on behavior.

Nearly all of the health risks and benefits summarized in this article are findings from retrospective epidemiological research studies of dogs, which examine potential associations by looking backwards in time. A few are from prospective research studies, which examine potential associations by looking forward in time.

SUMMARY

An objective reading of the veterinary medical literature reveals a complex situation with respect to the long-term health risks and benefits associated with spay/neuter in dogs. The evidence shows that spay/neuter

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correlates with both positive AND adverse health effects in dogs. It also suggests how much we really do not yet understand about this subject.

On balance, it appears that no compelling case can be made for neutering most male dogs, especially immature male dogs, in order to prevent future health problems. The number of health problems associated with neutering may exceed the associated health benefits in most cases.

On the positive side, neutering male dogs

- eliminates the small risk (probably <1%) of dying from testicular cancer
- reduces the risk of non-cancerous prostate disorders
- reduces the risk of perianal fistulas
- may possibly reduce the risk of diabetes (data inconclusive)

On the negative side, neutering male dogs

- if done before 1 year of age, significantly increases the risk of osteosarcoma (bone cancer); this is a common cancer in medium/large and larger breeds with a poor prognosis.
- increases the risk of cardiac hemangiosarcoma by a factor of 1.6
- triples the risk of hypothyroidism
- increases the risk of progressive geriatric cognitive impairment
- triples the risk of obesity, a common health problem in dogs with many associated health problems
- quadruples the small risk (<0.6%) of prostate cancer
- doubles the small risk (<1%) of urinary tract cancers
- increases the risk of orthopedic disorders
- increases the risk of adverse reactions to vaccinations

For female dogs, the situation is more complex. The number of health benefits associated with spaying may exceed the associated health problems in some (not all) cases. On

balance, whether spaying improves the odds of overall good health or degrades them probably depends on the age of the female dog and the relative risk of various diseases in the different breeds.

On the positive side, spaying female dogs

- if done before 2.5 years of age, greatly reduces the risk of mammary tumors, the most common malignant tumors in female dogs
- nearly eliminates the risk of pyometra, which otherwise would affect about 23% of intact female dogs; pyometra kills about 1% of intact female dogs
- reduces the risk of perianal fistulas
- removes the very small risk ($\leq 0.5\%$) from uterine, cervical, and ovarian tumors

On the negative side, spaying female dogs

- if done before 1 year of age, significantly increases the risk of osteosarcoma (bone cancer); this is a common cancer in larger breeds with a poor prognosis
- increases the risk of splenic hemangiosarcoma by a factor of 2.2 and cardiac hemangiosarcoma by a factor of >5 ; this is a common cancer and major cause of death in some breeds
- triples the risk of hypothyroidism
- increases the risk of obesity by a factor of 1.6-2, a common health problem in dogs with many associated health problems
- causes urinary "spay incontinence" in 4-20% of female dogs
- increases the risk of persistent or recurring urinary tract infections by a factor of 3-4
- increases the risk of recessed vulva, vaginal dermatitis, and vaginitis, especially for female dogs spayed before puberty
- doubles the small risk ($<1\%$) of urinary tract tumors
- increases the risk of orthopedic disorders
- increases the risk of adverse reactions to vaccinations

One thing is clear - much of the spay/neuter information that is available to the public is unbalanced and contains claims that are exaggerated or unsupported by evidence. Rather than helping to educate pet owners, much of it has contributed to common misunderstandings about the health risks and benefits associated of spay/neuter in dogs.

The traditional spay/neuter age of six months as well as the modern practice of pediatric spay/neuter appear to predispose dogs to health risks that could otherwise be avoided by waiting until the dog is physically mature, or perhaps in the case of many male dogs, foregoing it altogether unless medically necessary.

The balance of long-term health risks and benefits of spay/neuter will vary from one dog to the next. Breed, age, and gender are variables that must be taken into consideration in conjunction with non-medical factors

for each individual dog. Across-the-board recommendations for all pet dogs do not appear to be supportable from findings in the veterinary medical literature.

For clinical result, please check:

www.naiaonline.org/pdfs/LongTermHealthEffectsOfSpayNeuterInDogs.pdf

5 - New litters

Lothario and Mezza Alp angels Bergamascos

Litter Born July 2007 - 10 puppies



Ugo and Luna from Artos Bergamascos

Coming soon- December 2007

6- Next...

End of year club meet hosted by Alp Angels Bergamascos

December 2nd 2007

Have a great Holiday, see you next year

BSCOA