



Bio-Life International Ltd

GENETIC DISEASES (Hereditary i.e. breeding)

Dogs with genetic diseases fall into 1 of 2 categories:

- Disorders that can be managed but owners have to appreciate that they have to be managed for life
- Disorders where the Veterinary Surgeon is likely to recommend euthanasia

The latter tend to occur when the dog is at the puppy stage and is still with the breeder. Referring these to your Veterinary Surgeon is critical not only because of the outcome for the unfortunate dog but also because the breeder should be deterred from future breeding with the same blood lines.

GENETIC SKIN DISEASES WITH POTENTIAL LETHAL EFFECTS

Hopefully, the pet owner will not see too many of these but it is necessary to know about them because it can save the dog, or more often the puppy, from a lingering miserable life (& death)!

A. Ehlers-Danlos (skin fragility syndrome) & Cutaneous asther

Symptoms in sequence:

- **Skin tears easily at the slightest scratch**
- **Initially, tears do NOT bleed**
- **BUT repeats end up as lesions, scars & eventually gaping wounds**

First appearance: During the first 6 months of life

Breeds affected:

American Cocker Spaniel	Boxer
Miniature & Standard Dachshund	German Shepherds
Beagles	Manchester Terriers
Welsh Corgis	Saint Bernard
English Springer Spaniels	Greyhounds

Recommendation: Send straight to the Veterinary Surgeon. There is no cure and the dogs are usually euthanized. Breeder and Breed Society should be notified.

B. Lethal acrodermatitis

Symptoms:

- **Growth retardation**
- **Chronic bacterial inflammation of skin**
- **Fungal infections of footpad & nails**
- **Diarrhoea**
- **Pneumonia**
- **Tail chasing**

Breed affected: Bull Terriers

First appearance: Between 1 & 3 months. Puppies become passive & usually die

Recommendation if not: Send straight to the Veterinary Surgeon. There is no cure and the dogs are usually euthanized. Breeder and Breed Society should be notified.

NOTE: There is a similar disease in Collies & Shelties called **Dermatomyositis** but it is less severe and does not result in death unless the owner chooses that option. If it is diagnosed and you want to manage the condition, then a holistic programme is recommended.

Products that may benefit the dog

- [Naturesdiet™](#) - Meat, biscuit & chews
- [Bones from the butcher](#) – AND NO OTHER TREATS!
- [Bio-Life HomeCleanse™](#) - for dustmite in pet bedding & furnishings
- [Bio-Life Fabricleanse™](#) – for dustmite in carpets
- [Bio-Life MediCleanse™ Shampoo & Conditioner](#) – Chemical Friendly for sensitive dogs
- [Bio-Life MediCleanse™ Pure Essence or Paw & Patch Gel](#) plus [Paw & Patch Moisturiser](#) depending on the condition
- [Garlic](#) as a natural tick & flea repellent & [Kelp & Omega 3 & 6](#) to help restore thyroid & immune function