

## TOOL KIT CHART # 10

# SOME HEALTH PROBLEMS COMMONLY FOUND IN THE BASSET HOUND: DEFINITIONS

1. **Cancer**— A term referring to any type of malignant tumor.
2. **Cherry Eye**- A reddish swelling of the gland at the inner corner of the eye. Usually repaired surgically.
3. **Conjunctivitis** – An inflammation of the lining membrane of the eye. Usually accompanied by a discharge.
4. **Demodectic Mange** (Red Mange, puppy mange) –A mite infestation seen as a loss of hair in 1 to 5 spots usually in dogs under 9 months of age. May be immune related.
5. **Ear Infections** – Many Basset Hounds develop ear infections because their long ears do not allow sufficient circulation of air. May be due to a genetic predisposition or because ears are not kept clean.
6. **Ectropian** – A rolling out of the lower eyelids, exposing the eye to irritation.
7. **Entropian** – Eyelids roll in. The hair rubbing on the cornea causes irritation.
8. **Epilepsy** –A condition of recurrent seizures. May be acquired or congenital.
9. **Gastric Torsion** (Bloat, Twisted Stomach) – A swelling of the stomach due to gas and/or fluid. Once bloated, the stomach may twist. Mortality rate is about 50%.
10. **Glaucoma, Primary** (Congenital Glaucoma)- An increase of fluid pressure within the eyeball. Very painful, usually leads to blindness.
11. **Hip Dysplasia** (CHD) – A deformity of the hip joints, ranging from mild to severe. A moderately heritable condition.
12. **Hypothyroidism** – A condition resulting from inadequate secretion of thyroid hormone. Effects are a thin, brittle coat, reproductive problems and obesity. May be immune-related.
13. **Immune Deficiency Defects** – Any condition resulting from a below par functioning of the immune response system.
14. **Inguinal Hernia** – A bulge in the groin area. Hernias may be inherited conditions.
15. **Intervertebral Disk Disease**- A herniated disk disease which results in increased pressure on the spinal cord. Results may be irreversible damage and paralysis. More common in long-backed, dwarf breeds.
16. **Mycoplasma** – a type of bacteria present in all animals. When the immune system is compromised the proliferation of the bacteria may become great. Can lead to reproductive problems.
17. **Osteochondritis Dessicans** (OCD) –Caused by defective cartilage in the head of the long bones leading to gradual lameness. Usually in the shoulder. May have a genetic component.
18. **Overbite** (Overshot jaw, parrot mouth, shark jaw) –Upper jaw is longer than lower jaw, which creates a malocclusion.
19. **Panosteitis** (Wandering lameness, pano) – Acute, shifting lameness usually appearing in puppies from 5 to 12 months of age. May run in families. Dogs usually recover on their own.
20. **Patellar luxation** – Displacement of the kneecap due to poor leg structure holding kneecap in place. Starts at 4 to 6 months.
21. **Pyometra** –Accumulation of pus in the uterus, resulting usually from a severe bacterial infection. Malodorous vaginal discharge; excessive thirst. May be fatal.
22. **Radius agenesis** (Bowed front leg, Premature closure of radius)- Early closure (or improper growth) of radius; the overgrowth of the ulna leads to a bowed front leg.
23. **Sarcoptic Mange**- Caused by a mite. Most frequent in puppies. Leads to itching and raw irritated areas. Contagious.
24. **Thrombopathia** – An inherited platelet disorder which leads to abnormal bleeding. Early symptoms are red welts or spots on the belly or around the penis.
25. **Ulna, premature closure** – Ulna stops growing while radius continues; results in wrist-in/front-feet-out posture.
26. **Umbilical Hernia** – A bulging around the navel. Usually in puppies 2 weeks of age. Some may require surgery.
27. **Undershot** –A malocclusion of the mouth where the lower jaw is longer than the top jaw.
28. **Undescended Testicles**- Monorchid dogs have only one testicle in the scrotum. Cryptorchid dogs have no testicles in the scrotum. Inherited conditions.
29. **Ununited Acromial Process** (Elbow Dysplasia)- A developmental defect in which the elbow does not articulate properly, leading to secondary degenerative joint disease. Symptoms are pain and lameness. Surgical correction required. May be inherited.
30. **Von Willebrand's Disease** – A bleeding syndrome with several abnormal factors. Characterized by a deficiency of clotting factor VIII.

### References

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