

PANOSTEITIS

PANOSTEITIS is a disease of the long bones in the legs and is most often seen in young dogs of the larger breeds. These dogs usually show signs of lameness which often is seen in different legs at different times.

The cause of this disease is unknown. X-ray findings are used to diagnose this condition, however laboratory tests are sometimes necessary to rule out other causes of lameness. The primary signs seen on the X-rays include inflammation of the bones of the legs.

Dogs usually show a sudden onset of lameness beginning in the front legs. It most often is seen at 5-12 months of age. The disease often persists for 2-6 months, but can last up to 10 months. Lameness is often intermittent and sporadic. Lameness may switch from one leg to another. The degree of pain and discomfort will vary.

Full recovery usually occurs within 6 months with no permanent after-effects.

Treatment recommendations useful in this disease include:

1. Limited exercise is beneficial. Since the pet's condition may vary from day to day, let him/her exercise as much as he/she desires. During painful periods, inactivity is to be expected and desired.
2. Anti-inflammatory medications.
3. Pain medication in severe cases.
4. Feed a HIGH QUALITY DIET.
5. AVOID food supplements unless prescribed by us.

Notify the Clinic if any of the following occur:

1. Your pet's legs become swollen.
2. Your pet seems unusually uncomfortable.
3. There is a change in your pet's general health.