



Exaggerations and Extremes In Dog

Conformation/Education and Communication



Statement

SCOPE: brachycephalic dogs - focus on BOAS

Start with the “most affected”

- ▶ English Bulldog
- ▶ French Bulldog
- ▶ Pug
- ▶ (Boston terrier)



Statement

Although focusing on BOAS ones more:

Take an holistic approach

Do not forget

- ▶ Other Brachy related issues
- ▶ Other conditions affecting Brachy breeds

Statement

- ▶ In today's meeting we miss important stakeholders that need to be involved
- ▶ i.e. breedclubs, breeders and showjudges of brachybreeds

Develop an open access epidemiological data repository

- ▶ Sited on DogWellNet (not behind any firewalls)
- ▶ Searchable by breed and/or condition
- ▶ Links to open access data
- ▶ Directly holding data that are not open access
- ▶ Metadata available on datasets (e.g. Definitions of datafields, information on data generators)
- ▶ Basic advice on how to safely use these data, risks of assumptions etc.

Actioners: Dan O'Neill, David Sargan, Jane Ladlow, Cassandra Smith

BOAS Disease recognition and treatment Guidelines

- ▶ Advocate a user friendly grading system, usable by general veterinary practitioners and understandable by the general public and breeders that can be used for screening dogs, guiding breeding, monitoring disease progression and treatment options.

Jane Ladlow - Cambridge BOAS group

Claire Rusbridge - University of Surrey

Changing perceptions between stakeholders

- ▶ The group will aim to work with different stakeholder groups in order to work out how best to change perceptions, acknowledging that different approaches will be required - one size doesn't fit all
- ▶ Groups include public, breeders, vets and show communities
- ▶ Use of targeted positive messaging and strategies which engage and involve stakeholders

Tamzin Furtado - Human behaviour change

Action Plan for Breed Standards

- ▶ Work with the Breed Clubs and communities to introduce changes to the (UK) Kennel Club's Bulldog, French Bulldog and Pug breed standards. (These are already supported by the Kennel Club's Dog Health Group Breed Standards and Confirmations Sub Group).
- ▶ NB UK is considered by the FCI as the country of development of the Bulldog and the pug
- ▶ To work with the French Kennel Club to make similar changes to their (FCI) Breed Standard. (France being considered by the FCI as the country of development).
- ▶ To attempt to influence other jurisdictions outside of the UK to introduce similar changes into their Breed Standards.

Bill Lambert- Senior Health and Welfare Manager- The Kennel Club

Genetic action plan for extreme morphologies (BOAS, Spinal, Disc. Dental, ocular health)

- ▶ Estimated breeding values should be developed and used to **reduce incidence of BOAS** within each breeding population
- ▶ **Possible outcrosses** may be considered if necessary for continued advancements in breed health.
 - ▶ Involve population and molecular geneticists to model the ideal way to improve health and diversity.
 - ▶ Need to know homozygous intervals within each breeding population and ensure that any outcrosses would improve diversity and eliminate deleterious regions.
 - ▶ Evaluate existing populations and crosses that may already offer a pool of useful genetic diversity.
 - ▶ Involve a broad spectrum of breeders and breed communities including those already outcrossing.
- ▶ Danika Bannasch - UC Davis

Proposal:

IPFD adds its name to GPOI statement that obesity in dogs is a disease as accepted in humans

The Global Pet Obesity Initiative Position Statement

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Julie A. Churchill DVM, PhD, DACVN

Confirmed support from the following veterinary healthcare professional organizations as of December 17, 2018:

AAFP - American Association of Feline Practitioners
AAVN - American Academy of Veterinary Nutrition
ACVIM - American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine
ACVSMR - American College of Veterinary Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation
AVNT - Academy of Veterinary Nutrition Technicians
AVMA - American Veterinary Medical Association- Board of Directors
BVA - British Veterinary Association
BSAVA - British Small Animal Veterinary Association
CVMA - Canadian Veterinary Medical Association
CAVN - Canadian Academy of Veterinary Nutrition
Cats Protection (U.K.)
Dogs Trust (U.K.)
ESVE - European Society of Veterinary Endocrinology
ESVIM - European Society of Veterinary Internal Medicine
FECAVA - Federation of European Companion Animal Veterinary Associations
ICC - International Cat Care
ISFM - International Society of Feline Medicine
NAVTA - National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America
PNA - Pet Nutrition Alliance
PDSA - The People's Dispensary for Sick Animals
SCE - Society for Comparative Endocrinology
WSAVA - World Small Animal Veterinary Association

Uniform Definition of Obesity

We call for the veterinary profession to adopt uniform nomenclature for canine and feline obesity. There is currently no universally-accepted definition of obesity in dogs and cats, and this

Ward E, German AJ, Churchill JA. The Global Pet Obesity Initiative Position Statement. 2018.

Proposal:

IPFD accepts that obesity in dogs is a disease

- ▶ “There is currently no universally-accepted definition of obesity in dogs”
- ▶ “This makes it challenging for veterinarians to provide clear messages to their clients about obesity and might explain why veterinarians rarely record the presence of obesity in the clinical records of their patients.”
- ▶ “Our recommendation is that the term obesity be defined as 30% above ideal body weight..... equivalent to 8/9 using the preferred 9-point system.”

- ▶ “Obesity also meets the American Medical Association (AMA) definition of disease namely:
 1. An impairment of the normal functioning of some aspect of the body
 2. Demonstrates characteristic signs or symptoms
 3. Causes harm or morbidity”

- ▶ In humans: “the broad trend has been toward adopting - obesity as - a formal disease definition”
- ▶ In dogs: “a formal obesity classification will actually reduce stigma”
- ▶ “Obesity can reduce life expectancy, negatively impact quality of life, and is associated with various comorbidities.”

Creation of an international Brachy group

- ▶ Start with the national brachy groups
 - ▶ Current ones
 - ▶ Promote/ facilitate new groups
- ▶ Umbrella group
 - ▶ Identify different approaches
 - ▶ Identify different opinions - agree that sometimes disagree and move from there
 - ▶ Share experiences/ data
 - ▶ See how we can move forward together
- ▶ Monique Megens - FECAVA & WSAVA, and many others!