



FACT SHEET

Disorder:	LEGG-CALVE-PERTHES DISEASE (LCP)
Variety Affected:	Toy & Miniature.
Description:	Loss of blood supply to the cap of the femur bone in the hip joint leading to deterioration of the joint cartilage.
Symptoms:	Painful, rear-end lameness.
Mode of Inheritance:	Unknown, although a familial tendency is suspected.
Age for Diagnosis:	Early signs may show up at 6-8 months.
Method of Diagnosis:	Radiograph (X-ray), submitted to a Veterinary Orthopedic Specialist.
Treatment:	Surgical removal of the diseased joint cartilage. Use of an oral analgesic (i.e., aspirin, under a veterinarian's care) may relieve the pain in the early stages. However, if left untreated, secondary arthritis and painful lameness occur. Surgery to correct this disorder is expensive. Estimates range from \$1500 - \$2800 if there are no complications and possibly more in some areas of the country.
Recommendations:	Every dog being used in a breeding program should be x-rayed prior to being bred. Only dogs that have normal hips should be considered for breeding. Dogs that produce offspring with Legg-Calve-Perthes disease should be considered carriers; great care should be taken to avoid breeding carrier to carrier.
For more information:	http://www.vetsurgerycentral.com/legg_calve.htm

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