



VETERINARY REPORT

On the 7th of November 2024,

I, Dr Helen Aldrich, was requested to perform a veterinary report on a dog presented to me by Inspector Rowan, who confiscated the dog from a "Elton Johnson" from 93 Eland Road, Kewtown, Cape Town. The dog was confiscated after inspectors issued 3 warnings for the owner to seek veterinary treatment for the dog in question, with no response from the owner.

ANIMAL DETAILS

Species: Dog
Breed: Cross breed
Sex: Male, intact
Age: Adult
Name: Socks
Description: Brown and white
Case number: A51904 / INSP206897

EXAMINATION FINDINGS

- **Description** of the condition

The dog in question presented with the following pathologies:

1. Grade 3/5 lameness of the left front leg
2. Bilateral hairloss behind the ears associated with crusting, bleeding and pustules
3. Generalised moderate hair loss and pruritus (itching) of the body

- **Duration** of the condition

The lameness of the left front leg appears to be subacute in duration. The hair loss appears to chronic.

- **Cause** of the condition

In my experience, the bilateral pattern of the hair loss to the ears is typically associated with "fly strike" or repeated trauma caused by biting flies which tend to target the ears. These flies tend to dwell in unhygienic or poorly kept environments, which is consistent with what the inspector described to me regarding the home of this dog. The generalised hair loss and itching is likely associated due to tick/flea burden due to lack of tick and flea control.

Radiographs revealed no fractures or obvious pathologies to the left front leg, which makes soft tissue injury (i.e. muscle injury) more likely.

- **Prognosis** – Fair

- **Recommendation**

In my opinion this animal suffered unnecessarily as it went without veterinary care for a) the limping of the left front leg and b) skin condition of the ears and body. Two of the five animal freedoms were neglected, namely "Freedom from discomfort" and "Freedom from pain, injury or disease".

Yours sincerely

Dr H Aldrich (BVSc)

Veterinarian

Date compiled: 8 November 2024