



VETERINARY REPORT

To whom it may concern

On the 26th of March 2024 at approximately 15h30, I was presented with Teddy Hankel by his owner's daughter, Yasmin Hankel. Teddy belongs to Ms Hankel's mother and has been resident on her property until the morning before presentation. Ms Hankel has been estranged from her mother for the last four years, citing irreconcilable differences as the cause. Her mother has been diagnosed with dementia and was hospitalised the week previous to Teddy's presentation to the SPCA. Ms Hankel's mother has resided with her partner/husband (allegedly no proof of legal marriage at Ms Hankel's request at the records office) at 2 Strawberry Lane, Constantia for the past few years. On the same property, there are 2 more dogs as well as 2 cats. When Ms Hankel's mother was hospitalised for dementia, Ms Hankel described to me that her mother's partner had started the process to transfer ownership of the house to him. Upon hearing this news, Ms Hankel attempted to visit her mother's house to confront him but she was denied access. She saw the 3 dogs and 2 cats in various states of neglect. One week passed and Teddy Hankel was picked up in Grassy Park, having escaped the property in Constantia. He was brought to the SPCA, where he was scanned for a microchip and Ms Hankel was listed as a contact: at which point I consulted with his owners for veterinary care.

ANIMAL DETAILS

Species: Dog
Breed: Maltese
Sex: Male, neutered
Age: +- 14 years
Tattoo/Microchip/Other: Microchip
Name: Teddy
Description: White

EXAMINATION FINDINGS

- **Description** of the condition

Teddy showed the following abnormalities:

1. Severe chronic allergic skin disease with secondary pyoderma (bacterial infection of the skin) as well as chronic secondary changes from self-trauma, such as lichenification (thickening of the skin) and hyperpigmentation (increased pigmentation of the skin). Teddy was diagnosed with allergic skin disease earlier in life and was on a specific diet and treatment in order to manage this.
2. Very low body condition score (2/9 according to the Purina Body Condition Score).
3. Very poor coat condition. Several large "dags" have formed on Teddy's coat, especially around the mouth and face.

The following findings were age-related: Bilateral cataracts. Grade 2 heart murmur.

- **Duration** of the condition - Chronic
- **Cause** of the condition (you may use terms such as "in my experience, such wounds are caused by dog bites", etc)

In my experience, this condition is caused by chronic neglect of an animal.

- **Prognosis** – Fair (with adequate treatment and management of skin condition)

- **Recommendation**

Considering Teddy's state of chronic neglect, I would not advise he be returned to his home. Ms Hankel has agreed to cover the cost of his care to manage his skin condition and improve his body condition.

COMMENTS

Please see vet reports for the other animals associated with this case.

Yours sincerely

Dr Helen Aldrich (BVSc)
Veterinarian

Date compiled: 02 April 2024