



VETERINARY REPORT

On the 29th of July 2024,

I, Dr Helen Aldrich, was requested to perform a veterinary report on a dog presented to me on the 29th of July 2024 at approximately 11:00. The dog was collected by Inspector Rowan from HV 342, Village Heights, Lavender Hill, Cape Town. The owner was under the ownership of one Bernadine Edith Jacobs at time of collection. The dog was injured by a stray bullet/gunshot from an incident of gang violence in the area.

ANIMAL DETAILS

Species: Dog
Breed: Cross breed
Sex: Male, intact
Age: 4 years
Name: Rocky
Description: Tan and white

EXAMINATION FINDINGS

- **Description** of the condition

Rocky upon presentation was depressed but responsive. He showed the following abnormalities:

1. Severe chronic generalised pruritus and lichenification of the skin with severe flea infestation
2. Mild dehydration evidenced by prolonged skin tent
3. Moderate enlargement of the pre-scapular and submandibular lymph nodes
4. Congested mucous membranes
5. Moderate swelling of right flank fold associated with a round entry wound, associated with a bullet (no exit site was noted)
6. Severe attrition/wear of the dentition result in pulp and root exposure of the incisors
7. Radiographs showed:
 - a. Atlantoaxial subluxation (neck dislocation)
 - b. Small amount of fluid in the abdomen consistent with an inflammatory response
 - c. Severe gastric dilation with large amount of food material
 - d. No bullet was seen on radiographs.

- **Duration** of the condition

Rocky shows both signs of chronic neglect in addition to the acute traumatic event of gunshot wound.

- **Cause** of the condition

Conditions 1, 3 and 6 are the result of chronic neglect and failure of the owner to meet the animal's basic needs.

Conditions 2, 4, 5 and 7b are the result of a gunshot wound injury. The bullet likely travelled through the abdomen from the right flank fold to the left side of the body.

Condition 7a is likely due to another recent acute traumatic event. There is no evidence of remodelling or stabilisation attempts by the body that would indicate a chronic lesion.

- **Prognosis** – Very poor

- **Recommendation**

Considering Rocky's state of chronic neglect, I would not advise he be returned to his home. The gunshot wound and dislocation of his neck renders him in severe pain and it is my recommendation that Rocky be euthanised to prevent further unnecessary suffering.

Yours sincerely

Dr H Aldrich (BVSc)

Veterinarian

Date compiled: 29 July 2024