



Veterinary Ethical Report

On the 29th of July, I saw this animal in our High care ward. She was confiscated by SPCA inspector Lee from 3 Gonnobos Avenue, Kuilsriver on the 26/07/24. She was seen by a locum veterinarian over the weekend.

ANIMAL DETAILS

Species: Dog
Breed: Mixed breed
Sex: Female
Age: Senior
Name: Lilly
Description: Black coat
Case: A36318

EXAMINATION FINDINGS

- **Description** of the condition
 1. Ear infection: Moderate yeast and bacteria organisms seen on an ear smear taken, ears have crusting and are dirty on inner pinna
 2. Body condition score a 4 on The Purina Body Condition system
 3. Nails are very long on front and hind legs.
 4. Bilateral yellow discharge from eyes
 5. Mild cataracts present in both eyes
 6. Eyes sunken in and muscle atrophy of muscles on face
 7. Walks very unsteady on hindlimbs, ataxic on hind legs. Struggles to get up from lying down
 8. Small pedunculated growth on right front elbow
 9. Hair loss on tail base indicating flea bite allergy.
- **Cause:** Poor gait is due to arthritic changes in joints. Muscle atrophy and eye condition may be due to old age. In my experience this comes from poor or no ectoparasite control.
- **Prognosis:** poor to guarded

I do believe that Lilly needed veterinary treatment early and basic routine pet care, the owner has failed to provide this to Lilly resulting in the condition seen.

Radiographs were taken on the 29/07/24 at our hospital, findings reveal severe bilateral arthritis of the stifles and severe hip dysplasia of the right hip joint.

In our care the animal has been on pain management and anti-inflammatories daily, we have also been lubricating Lilly's eyes and using an antibacterial eyedrop.

In my experience, these arthritic cases need a multimodal management including daily walks, pain management and anti-inflammatory therapy to keep an animal comfortable. This dog is

a confiscated animal and may be kept in the kennels for long period. Animal will need daily walks to help strengthen muscles around joint, at home physio is also recommended. Arthritis is a degenerative condition and there is concern for the long-term prognosis for the animal.

It is evident that this animal is in pain and discomfort and the kennel environment will not be appropriate for the needs of this dog. In the dog's best interest, I will proceed with humane euthanasia of this animal to relieve suffering.

Yours sincerely

Dr D Narotam (BVSc)
Veterinarian

Date compiled: 30/07/24