



Veterinary Report

On the 1st of August I was presented with this animal, the dog was confiscated by SPCA inspector Lwazi from 2 Canna Street Lentegeure.

ANIMAL DETAILS

Species: Dog
Breed: Pitbull
Sex: Male
Age: Adult
Name: -
Description: Tan and white
Case: A28394

EXAMINATION FINDINGS

- **Description** of the condition

Examination findings revealed the dog had a mild limp with the right front leg, moderately swollen carpus of both front limbs. There were numerous scarring on the Right hind limb thigh and on the distal extremities. There were 2 puncture wounds on the right cheek and one on the head. There was also an open wound along the lateral margin of the left ear. No external parasites were seen and dog has a body condition score of 5 on the Nestle Purina Body Condition System.

Under our care this animal's wounds were treated with antibiotics and pain medication. The wounds were shaved, cleaned and flushed out with Ringers Lactate Solution to remove debris and bacteria from the surface. Since the puncture wounds caused a big pocket under the skin, a drain was placed also placed to assist with flushing the wound and reducing any dead space.

The dog also had cropped ears, they have healed so it was not cropped recently. According to the South African Veterinary Council's (SAVC) Code of Conduct in place for Veterinarians: Any surgery to alter the natural state of an animal that does not benefit an animal is unacceptable. According to the Animal Protection Act 71 of 1962 2(1) no person shall "maim any animal". Cropping of the ears of an animal is maiming an animal. In most cases when ear cropping is performed by a lay person it is done without anaesthetic and is a very painful procedure for an animal to undergo, there is also a high risk for complications such as infection. This animal has undergone unnecessary suffering for this cosmetic procedure.

- **Cause:** In my experience, the scarring and puncture lesions found on examination is likely due to this animal being in dog fights. The previous scarring indicated that this was not the first fight this dog has been in.
- **Prognosis:** Good

- **Recommendation:** I recommend that this animal is sterilised to prevent further dog fights and advise further investigation with regards to the ear cropping of this animal.

Yours sincerely

Dr D Narotam (BVSc)
Veterinarian

Date compiled: 07/08/24