

Multiple Congenital Defects: Cataracts, Retinal Dysplasia and Microphthalmia – Study and Published

Larratta et al. (8) observed multiple defects in 10 Akita puppies from three related litters. The pregnancies and parturitions were apparently normal.

In Litter 1:

5 of the 9 pups were examined. 2 of these had severe bilateral microphthalmia, nuclear and perinuclear cortical cataracts, and areas of dysplastic retinal folds of those seen in other breeds. Of the 3 remaining pups, all were normal except 1 female also had multiple retinal folds.

In Litter 2:

2 of the 6 survivors of a litter of 11 were examined. The changes were the same as in Litter 1.

In Litter 3:

3 pups of the litter of 8 had poor vision. Histologic examination revealed cortical cataracts and posterior lenticonus with lens extrusion through a defective posterior capsule. The other pups were not examined.

Meredith (9) also has observed the identical or very similar condition as a familial of affecting only a portion of a litter, and his examinations indicate the presence of congenital cataract and microphthalmia as well.

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