

Definitions of Health Conditions



This list is not meant to be exhaustive, nor is it indicative of conditions that are prevalent in Dachshunds.

[Source: Wikipedia & Google searches].

Refer to: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_dog_diseases

Condition	Description
Achondroplasia	Achondroplasia is a type of autosomal dominant genetic disorder that is a common cause of dwarfism.
Addison's Disease	Addison's Disease is an endocrine system disorder that occurs when the adrenal glands fail to produce enough hormones to keep the body functioning normally. Symptoms include vomiting, diarrhoea, lethargy, lack of appetite, tremors or shaking, muscle weakness, low body temperature, collapse, low heart rate, and pain in the hind quarters.
Alopecia	Patches of hair loss especially on the head, neck, and body; no itching. Thought to be an autoimmune disorder.
Anury	Dogs affected by this rare disorder have no tail at all and the surface is perfectly smooth where the tail is normally situated. The absence of the tail may be associated with no anal opening.
Arthritis	It can cause a great deal of pain and lameness and is characterised by progressive deterioration of cartilage in the joints of the limbs.
Atopy	A chronic, allergic condition caused by hypersensitivity to a substance which is inhaled or absorbed through the skin. The most common symptom is itching.
Auto-immune Disease	An over-active immune response of the body against substances normally present in the body.
Bronchitis	Inflammation of the mucous membranes of the passage in the respiratory tract. Characterised by a cough.
Cancer	Similarly to humans, Cancer is a leading cause of death among older dogs.
Cataract	A Cataract is a clouding that develops in the crystalline lens of the eye or in its envelope, varying in degree from slight to complete opacity and obstructing the passage of light.
Chronic Liver Disease	A disease process of the liver that involves progressive destruction of the liver, leading to fibrosis and cirrhosis.

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Chronic Superficial Keratitis	Chronic Superficial Keratitis (CSK), also known as Pannus or Uberreiter's Disease, is an inflammatory condition of the cornea in dogs, reported particularly to be seen in the German Shepherd Dog, but it is also found in Belgian Tervurens, Greyhounds, Siberian Huskies, Australian Shepherds, and Border Collies.
Colitis	A digestive disease caused by inflammation of the colon. Signs may include: abdominal tenderness, weight loss, changes in bowel habits (increased frequency), fever, bleeding/bloody stools, diarrhoea.
Common Variable Immunodeficiency	Common Variable Immunodeficiency (CVID) is a group of 20-30 primary immunodeficiencies (PIDs) which have a common set of symptoms (including hypogammaglobulinemia), but with different underlying causes. As a result, the patient's immune system fails to protect them against common bacterial and viral (and occasionally parasitic and protozoan) infections. The net result is that the patient is susceptible to illness.
Cryptorchidism	Cryptorchidism is the absence of one or both testes from the scrotum. This usually represents failure of the testis to move, or "descend," during foetal development from an abdominal position, through the inguinal canal, into the ipsilateral scrotum.
Cushing's Disease	A hormone disorder caused by high levels of cortisol in the blood. Cushing's is a particular form of hyperpituitarism characterised by an abnormally high level of ACTH, produced by a non-cancerous tumour in the the pituitary gland.
Cystine and Urate Uroliths	Bladder Stones: Types of stones include struvite, calcium oxalate, urate, cystine, calcium phosphate, and silicate. Struvite and calcium oxalate stones are by far the most common.
Cystitis	A urinary tract infection, usually caused by bacteria. Signs include blood in the urine, difficulty in urinating and frequent urination.
Deafness (congenital)	Dachshunds with two Dapple-coloured parents (so-called "Double Dapples") have an increased chance of congenital deafness which can occur in one or both ears. This is associated with the "merle" gene. A unilaterally deaf Dachshund can hear in one ear only.
Dermatitis	Dermatitis is a catch-all term meaning "inflammation of the skin".
Diabetes Mellitus	A condition in which the body either does not produce enough, or does not properly respond to, insulin; a hormone produced in the pancreas. This causes glucose to accumulate in the blood, leading to various potential complications. Insulin enables cells to absorb glucose in order to turn it into energy. All forms of diabetes are treatable, but not curable.

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Dystocia (uterine inertia)	Abnormal or difficult whelping; including uterine inertia.
Eclampsia	An acute and life-threatening complication of pregnancy, sometimes characterised by seizures after whelping.
Ectropian	An outward folding eyelid, usually affecting the lower lid.
Elbow Dysplasia	A condition more commonly found in large breeds, involving multiple abnormalities of the elbow joint.
Entropion	An inward folding eyelid. Upper lid Entropion involves the eyelashes rubbing on the eye, but the lower lid usually has no eyelashes, so hair rubs on the eye.
Epilepsy	Epilepsy is a common chronic neurological disorder that is characterised by recurrent, unprovoked seizures.
Gastric Torsion (Bloat)	A painful and often fatal twisting of the stomach occurring in large or deep-chested breeds. Bloat can usually be prevented by feeding small meals and not allowing vigorous exercise immediately before or after eating.
Glaucoma	An increase of pressure inside the eye.
Gluten-sensitive Enteropathy	A set of conditions in which gluten has an adverse effect. A gluten-free diet usually resolves the condition.
Haemophilia A	A blood-clotting disorder caused by a mutation of the Factor VIII gene, leading to a deficiency in Factor VIII. It is the most common Haemophilia. Inheritance is X-linked recessive; hence, males are affected while females are carriers, or very rarely display a mild phenotype.
Heart Murmur	Murmurs are extra heart sounds that are produced as a result of turbulent blood flow which is sufficient to produce audible noise. Murmurs may be present in normal hearts without any heart disease. These types of murmurs, often referred to as innocent murmurs, usually cause no trouble for the patient. Murmurs may also be the result of various problems, such as narrowing or leaking of valves, or the presence of abnormal passages through which blood flows in or near the heart. Such murmurs, known as pathologic murmurs, should be evaluated by an expert.
Hepatitis	An acute liver infection caused by canine adenovirus type-1 (CAV-1).

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Hernias: Inguinal and Umbilical	<p>An Inguinal Hernia is a protrusion of abdominal-cavity contents through the inguinal canal.</p> <p>An Umbilical Hernia may be present at the site of the umbilicus (commonly called the navel, or belly-button) in the newborn puppy; although sometimes quite large, these hernias tend to resolve without any treatment. It is believed that they are congenital (inherited).</p>
Hip Dysplasia	<p>An inherited disease that is characterised by abnormal development of the concave surface of the pelvis and the head of the femur. It is more common in large breeds.</p>
Hyperthyroidism	<p>Hypothyroidism is the disease state caused by excessive production of thyroid hormone by the thyroid gland. Clinical features of Hyperthyroidism are elevated heart rate, weight loss, increased appetite, nervousness, increased water intake and urination, and increased activity.</p>
Hypothyroidism	<p>Hypothyroidism is the disease state caused by insufficient production of thyroid hormone by the thyroid gland. The clinical signs associated with Hypothyroidism are all related to an overall slowing of metabolism in the cells.</p>
Inter-vertebral Disc Disease (IVDD)	<p>Also called: Bulging disc, Compressed disc, Herniated intervertebral disc, Herniated nucleus pulposus, Prolapsed disc, Ruptured disc, Slipped disc.</p>
Inter-digital Cyst	<p>Cysts that form between the toes. These cause the dog some discomfort, but are treatable.</p>
Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS)	<p>A bowel disorder characterised by chronic abdominal pain, discomfort and bloating.</p>
Kidney (Renal) Failure	<p>May be acute or chronic and is characterised by significant loss of the kidney's filtration function.</p>
Lafora's Disease	<p>This is an inherited late-onset and progressive form of epilepsy, characterised by jerking and shuddering of the head in a backward direction. Common triggers include flashing lights, sudden movements near the head and unexpected noises. It can also occur during sleep. Some affected dogs may also start having the more usual type of epileptic fits as well.</p>
Legg-Calve Perthe Disease	<p>A disease of the hip joint that results in abnormal deformity of the ball of the hip joint.</p>

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Mega-Oesophagus	When a dog has Mega-oesophagus, the oesophagus is enlarged and does not push the food down to the stomach. Therefore, the food fails to enter the stomach and often stays in the oesophagus, and is eventually regurgitated.
Mitral Valve Disease	Mitral regurgitation (MR), a valvular heart disease also known as mitral insufficiency or mitral incompetence, is the abnormal leaking of blood through the mitral valve, from the left ventricle into the left atrium of the heart.
Mucopolysaccharidosis IIIa (Sanfilippo Syndrome)	Sanfilippo Syndrome is an inherited disease of metabolism that makes the body unable to properly break down long chains of sugar molecules called glycosaminoglycans (formerly called mucopolysaccharides).
Narcolepsy	A chronic sleep disorder. Up to 17 breeds of dogs are affected sporadically, and familial forms have been reported in Dobermanns, Labrador Retrievers and Long-haired Dachshunds. Narcolepsy is neither progressive nor life-threatening.
Otitis Externa	An inflammation of the outer ear and ear canal. Dogs with large, “floppy” ears are more prone to this condition. The external ear in dogs is longer and deeper than in humans, which makes it easier for infection or wax to build up, or be hard to remove.
Pancreatitis	Inflammation of the pancreas, sometimes associated with Diabetes.
Patellar Luxation	A medial or lateral displacement of the patella, or kneecap. It is strongly suspected to be inherited, but can also result from trauma. It is more common in smaller breeds of dogs.
Pneumonia	An inflammatory condition of the lung.
Primary Sensory Neuropathy	Loss of pain sensation and self-mutilation. The clinical signs include disturbances of proprioception, pain sensation and urinary function. A Sensory Neuropathy affecting three Long-haired Dachshunds is described in one study. Sensory nerve conduction was absent in one dog in the study.
Progressive Retinal Atrophy	Progressive Retinal Atrophy (PRA) is a group of genetic diseases seen in certain breeds of dogs and, more rarely, cats. It is characterised by the bilateral degeneration of the retina, causing progressive vision loss and culminating in blindness. The condition in nearly all breeds is inherited as an autosomal recessive trait, with the exception of the Siberian Husky (inherited as an X chromosome linked trait) and the Bullmastiff (inherited as an autosomal dominant trait).
Pyoderma	Pyoderma means any skin condition that is associated with a bacterial infection.

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Pyruvate Kinase Deficiency	An inherited metabolic disorder of the enzyme Pyruvate Kinase which affects the survival of red blood cells. Both autosomal dominant and recessive inheritance have been observed with the disorder. Pyruvate Kinase Deficiency is the second most common cause of enzyme-deficient haemolytic anaemia, following G6PD deficiency.
Sudden Acquired Retinal Degeneration Syndrome (SARDS)	Clinical signs include acute, bilateral visual deficits that lead to blindness over the course of days to weeks.
Sick Sinus Syndrome	A group of abnormal heart rhythms (arrhythmias) presumably caused by a malfunction of the sinus node, the heart's primary pacemaker. Bradycardia-tachycardia syndrome is a variant of sick sinus syndrome where atrial flutter and fibrillation alternate with prolonged periods of asystole.
Stroke	A stroke (sometimes called an acute cerebrovascular attack) is the rapidly developing loss of brain function(s) due to disturbance in the blood supply to the brain.
Tumours	A tumour is the name for a swelling or lesion formed by an abnormal growth of cells (termed <i>neoplastic</i>). <i>Tumour</i> is not synonymous with cancer. A tumour can be benign, pre-malignant or malignant, whereas cancer is by definition malignant.
Type 1 Von Willebrand Disease	An inherited bleeding disorder. The dog is missing a substance which helps the platelets form clots and stabilises Factor VIII in the clotting process. This substance is called Von Willebrand's Factor.
Xanthinuria	A rare genetic disorder causing the accumulation of xanthine in the blood and urine, which can lead to health problems such as renal failure and xanthine kidney stones, one of the rarest types of kidney stones.