

CEREBELLAR ATAXIA 7

PROPOSED SCHEME FOR THE CONTROL OF CA CEREBELLAR ATAXIA IN ITALIAN SPINONI THE ITALIAN SPINONE CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN

1. All proven carriers be withdrawn from breeding.
2. Since litter mates of affected puppies have an unacceptably high risk of being carriers, it is strongly recommended that they should not be bred from unless they have been proven clear, by a geneticist, on the basis of retrospective analysis of their past breeding records.
3. Since brothers and sisters, and sons and daughters, or proven carriers also have an unacceptably high risk of being carriers it is recommended that they should not be bred from unless
 - a) they have been proven clear, by a geneticist, on the basis of retrospective analysis of their past breeding records (this requires details of purchasers of the puppies) or
 - b) there is no alternative other than to disband a whole kennel. In this situation it is recommended:
 - i. That the Health Sub Committee be notified of the proposed mating and supplied with the relevant pedigrees in order that the situation can be monitored.
 - ii. That only bitches be bred from.
 - iii. That at most only one or two litters are taken from such animals.
 - iv. That these bitches be selectively out crossed away from all know sources of CA.
 - v. That all pups sold from such litters should be registered and have their registrations endorsed 'not for breeding' and, in addition, the name and address of the purchasers of the puppies be sent to the Health Sub Committee. It is further recommended that when registering such litters the words "SUBJECT TO CEREBELLAR ATAXIA CONTROL SCHEME" be written across the top of the green form. (Still to be agreed with the KC)

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4. In later generations i.e. 2nd generation onwards, the following procedure is recommended,
 - for bitches -
 - a) breeders should note the levels of risk that still exist and avoid going back into affected lines, using selective out crossing, if desired, or proven clear lines.
 - for dogs –
 - b) since a stud dog can inflict major damage upon the breed, should he be a carrier, and since the risk of him being detected as a carrier will be small with a policy of out crossing, it is recommended that no dog who has a proven carrier within 2 generations should be used at stud unless he has been proven clear of CA, by a geneticist, on the basis of retrospective analysis of his past breeding records.
5. All owners of stud dogs, prior to accepting a bitch for mating, should
 - a) ask to inspect her pedigree to see that CA lines are not involved and
 - b) where CA lines are involved, satisfy themselves that the owner is complying with the above recommendations.
6. All new cases of CA are to be reported to the Health Sub Committee with pedigrees and case histories.

ISCSB Health Sub Committee
May, 1998