

Ehlers–Danlos Syndrome in Dogs

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Ehlers-Danlos syndrome (EDS) or cutaneous asthenia is an uncommon connective tissue disease in dog and cat, it is attributed to mutations in connective tissue gene. EDS-affected animals revealed clinically integumental, musculoskeletal, gastrointestinal, and cardiovascular signs.

Four dogs (1 Yorkshire terrier and 3 Sitzu) were presented for investigation of cutaneous asthenia (hyperextensible skin). To determine the skin laxity, skin extensibility index (SEI) was calculated and skin biopsy was operated. Physical examination and blood test were performed.

Average of SEI was 25%. Histopathologic examination revealed decreased dense collagen fiber of dermis and number of hair follicles. All EDS-affected animals were bright and alert.

On our knowledge, this is a very rare report of EDS in dogs. This study may provide a valuable data on the study of EDS or cutaneous asthenia in veterinary clinics.

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