**The elbow enigma – medial coronoid disease; elbow dysplasia trends and the emerging role of computed tomography scanning**

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Sound elbow conformation is essential for working dogs, with elbow dysplasia (ED) being a cause of early work breakdown. Selection against ED is a critical component of working dog breeding programs, however inability of traditional screening methods to detect medial coronoid disease (MCD) may undermine success of this selection pressure.

Recent research shows that MCD can be undetectable on plain radiographs traditionally used, and may remain subclinical until >2-3 years of age, after significant investment into the dog’s training and placement with a handler or client has already occurred.

Computed Tomography (CT) is able to produce highly detailed cross-sectional images of the elbow, and with access to CT scanning becoming more readily available, it is developing into the preferred imaging modality for ED screening.

This presentation reports on ED trends in approximately 300 Seeing Eye Dogs over a 4 year period versus more recent CT outcomes, and reviews case studies and CT scanning protocols.