

# VACCINOSIS

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This subject has been becoming increasingly more popular every year. What is it and What are the symptoms? Until recently there was no such name yet given to what appeared to be a severe reaction to inoculations of our puppies.

Symptoms may vary from mild to death. Symptoms I have personally experienced are vomiting, diarrhea, lethargy, loss of appetite, and withdrawal from the other litter mates. These symptoms may be very subtle at first.

One thing that has always been consistent is that the puppy in a very short time, will become hypoglycemic. This may be the first indication that there is something wrong. When the hypoglycemia is corrected we think we have corrected the problem, only to find out that this is only part of the ongoing problems we will face. Repeated bouts of hypoglycemia which could occur, cause death.

About nine years ago I had a puppy who was very healthy become withdrawn. He refused to eat and just lay in his bed. I took him away from the other puppies so I could observe him. He developed diarrhea and vomiting during the middle of the night. The next morning I had him into the vet's office at 7am. We checked him for parvo, did x-rays and labs, and started IV fluids. We nursed him for two days before he died. This puppy was sent to Michigan State University for an autopsy; cause of death was never determined. At the time the only thing I could think of that had been done was that I had given him his first shot about five days before. I inquired if this could have anything to do with the puppy suddenly becoming ill. I was told that the

shots couldn't even be considered the cause. I accepted this as my vet and Michigan State should know. It continued to bother me.

Things went pretty well until about five years later and again, a very healthy puppy displayed these same symptoms. Being a nurse I felt I could treat this puppy just as well at home, and have it be less stressful on the pup. I kept him hydrated and gave him a variety of treatments. There was no vomiting or diarrhea in this puppy; he just stopped eating and became hypoglycemic. After two weeks of treatment and antibiotics he finally came around. I never found out just what the problem was. At this time I brought the issue up at our club meeting and

asked the other breeders if they had ever had this problem. They said no. Again this happened about five days after I had given the first shot.

One evening a friend of mine called to tell me her puppy was at the vet's with symptoms that I had discussed at the meeting. I told her what I suspected and told her to ask the vet



*George, Lillian & Mia*

that he thought. He again did not believe that the shots had anything to do with the illness of the puppy. She brought the puppy home and started the treatment I had used on my Puppy and it survived. I asked her if she had just given the puppy his shots and the answer was yes.

Since that time I have had two more puppies develop these symptoms. One died and one survived. I also had these puppies autopsied at Michigan State University. The cause of death in one case was determined one could not be determined. At the time I was giving a five-way shot and half doses to the small ones. I was told by a vet that the half dose was of no value as the full one cc amount had to be given to be effective.

Again. I just recently had the problem and treated this puppy at home. I had given a half dose of just parvo and distemper several days before this. By this time I had been reading a lot of articles about vaccines and the problems that the holistic community felt was being caused by the use of too much vaccine.

While in Mexico this summer at the World Dog show there was a veterinarian conference going on and I picked up some of the material that was available. One of these books was a study of gastrointestinal problems in dogs. In that article was a discussion of the study done on high titer vaccines. It was determined that vaccines were causing autoimmune and gastrointestinal problems in dogs and that it was starting to look

as if we were killing our dogs with too many injections.

I again discussed this issue at club meeting. This time a few people stated they had seen some problems and had lost puppies within five to ten days of giving the vaccines. I also talked to my vet about this issue and this was the first time he admitted to me that the vaccines were causing a lot of problems. I discussed giving the half dose to these small pups and he told me to only give a quarter dose.

I have changed the way I give vaccines in recent years and only give parvo and distemper to all my puppies until they are at least twelve weeks old, and recently have started to give a half dose to them all. I can't say that one treatment has worked on all the pups. Treating the symptoms has worked the best and again, symptoms have varied from pup to pup. To date I have had four in thirteen years, of which two have died and two lived and are healthy today, but to lose two needlessly is too much. I also will only give a killed vaccine to my dogs. I have researched this issue by talking to my vet and the holistic people and have decided that all of my dogs that are five years and up will never again get anything but their rabies, and I will only give that because it is required by law.

I hope the veterinarian community and drug companies will take a better look at the use of vaccines. We as breeders need to document these events and maybe we will make a difference. We were able to force the dog food companies to remove the preservatives out of the food;

now we need to find a better way to protect our pets from disease rather than kill them by over vaccinating them.

I would like to hear from anyone who has suspicions that this same thing has occurred to any of their puppies. Also, discuss this issue with your vet. The Gazette had a very good article concerning this issue. Next time you give your puppies their shots, keep this in mind.

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