

THE COACH HOUSE VETERINARY CLINIC

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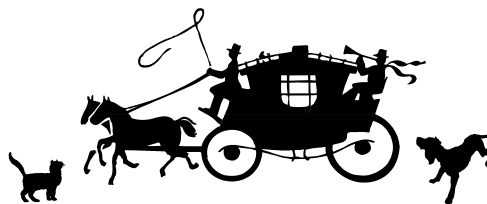
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Veterinary Surgeon



ALABAMA ROT (Cutaneous Renal Glomerular Vasculopathy) Information for clients

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*There has been a lot of hype in the media recently regarding this disease our first advice is **DO NOT PANIC!** You or ourselves will probably be fortunate enough to never encounter a case of this disease but we have put together some advice on what we currently know about this unexplained disease.

WHAT IS ALABAMA ROT?

*It was first reported in the USA in the late 1980's in Greyhounds. The cause is unknown but it is thought to have affected dogs that have been walked/run in woodland/marshy areas and causes skin lesions often on limbs.

SYMPTOMS

*Skin lesions resembling an ulcer often on limbs below the knee and elbow

*Renal (kidney) failure – vomiting, inappetance (off food), lethargic, 'off colour'

*The usual time scale from developing lesions progressing to acute renal failure is 3 days (range 1-10 days)



DIAGNOSIS & TREATMENT

*There is currently no specific test available to confirm Alabama Rot early supportive therapy of acute renal failure in the form of intravenous fluid therapy (intra-venous drip to monitor kidney function) can help but sadly the disease has a high mortality rate of 90%. Most diagnoses are made on post-mortem as a result of kidney failure.

PREVENTION

*There is no need to change your habits of exercise etc. good practice would be to wash your dog's feet preferably with an antiseptic solution after walks.

*The symptoms mentioned above would be of a fairly quick onset of a very sick dog and you would realise you had a problem, again the message is this is a rare fatal disease which we will hopefully not encounter and you should not get over anxious about but only be aware of its existence

