

experiences are that it is severe, often recurrent and can be fatal (Clercx and others 2003, Greenwell and others 2014).

As a result of owner concerns, we have been investigating this condition in conjunction with the breed health group for the past two years. This study required owners to complete a questionnaire providing the clinical details and outcome of their affected dogs. The results of 59 cases were presented at the recent BSAVA congress (Bodey 2015). They indicated the development of acute respiratory disease in wolfhounds is multifactorial. Treatment protocols varied for the 59 dogs, including many different medications and a variety of antibiotics. There was no evidence that any particular treatment combination or particular antibiotic led to a significant improvement in outcome in affected dogs. We are currently looking to expand this initial study and enrol as many wolfhounds with acute respiratory disease as possible. We will use these cases to perform a more comprehensive review of this condition. We would primarily like to determine whether this is one condition with a single aetiology or multiple aetiologies presenting in a similar way.

We would therefore like to hear from clinicians who have managed acute respiratory disease in Irish wolfhounds. In particular, we would like to gather data on the clinical features of the disease, responses to treatment and outcomes. Although this study will be largely retrospective, we are very keen to hear of new cases and would like to follow their clinical progress where possible. We hope that by expanding this study we will be able to understand and manage this condition more thoroughly and improve the outcome for wolfhounds with acute respiratory disease. We would appreciate

it if colleagues could contact us using the details below to discuss any cases that they feel might be suitable for the study, which may also involve completing a short questionnaire.

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RESEARCH

Acute respiratory disease in Irish wolfhounds

IRISH wolfhound owners have been concerned for many years about acute respiratory disease in the breed. Their



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