



McMASTER & HEAP VETERINARY PRACTICE

OUR JERRY LEE a true survivor

This is a great story of one very gutsy, tough, utterly loveable German Shepherd pup called "Jerry Lee". At just 17 months of age we have seen Jerry Lee over 30 times since his first visit for pup vaccinations. Luckily for us he's a big softy and has never put up a fight to all our palpating and needle pricking. Occasionally to get us back he rips out the IV catheter in his leg and looks quite pleased with himself.

Jerry Lee first presented with weight loss and inappetence over a year ago as a pup. He just was never fussed on eating – no food really tickled his fancy and he was offered the best premium foods on the market and lots of variety. He wasn't growing as he should have for his age and he often seemed really lethargic and lacking in energy. He had diarrhea and vomiting intermittently, salivating often, but what really concerned his owners was that as a pup he just didn't have the energy he should of had. He has been blood tested many times, xrays have been taken of his gut and Catherine has performed ultrasounds. There isn't many tests Jerry lee hasn't had. No abnormalities were really detected but we all knew he wasn't right. Many times we treated Jerry Lee with lower fat intestinal moist food, occasional antibiotics, drugs to help with nausea and vomiting, pain medications and we kept his worming up to date. He'd come right initially but before long we'd see him back just flat and listless and basically anorexic. He was a real worry to his owners and to us.



recently I performed exploratory surgery to inspect his stomach, small and large intestines all his abdominal organs, biopsying in particular many sections of stomach, bowel, pancreas and liver. This is where finally we

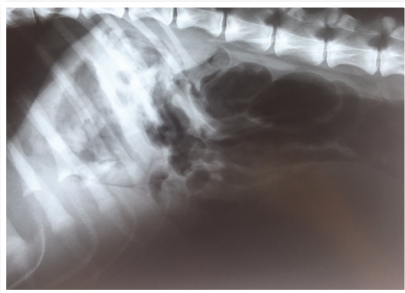
got a diagnosis of Inflammatory Bowel Disease – aptly called Eosinophilic, Lymphoplasmacytic, diffuse IBD!!!

He's a true battler and at least we have a diagnosis now. Treatment is complicated, lengthy, costly and it really places an emotional strain on everyone in the family as its very hard seeing your loved pet (and a baby at that), go through at times pain and discomfort. To be hit with IBD as a young pup is very unlucky but Jerry Lee is so totally loved and adored by his family who would do anything for him. It would be fair to say his vet bills have been large and thanks to PetPlan Insurance, a massive financial burden has been lifted from Jerry Lee's family. PetPlan are covering the vast majority of all his care and we are all praying we can get this nasty disease under control so Jerry Lee can finally enjoy life to the fullest!!

Pet Insurance for your new pup or kitten is something worthy of a discussion. Most pet insurance companies will offer 4-6 weeks free cover initially for your new pup or kitten, which gives you time to look at all the insurance options. We don't sell pet insurance but we give you information on all the pet insurance companies out there for you to investigate the best option for you. Some cover pre-existing conditions which is a bonus. It makes life simpler for us as your pets veterinarian as we are able to do the very best in care, diagnostics and treatment for your pet with the financial worry removed.

For more information on Pet Insurance or Inflammatory Bowel disease be sure to give the clinic a call.

Dr Michele McMaster



In his wee short life he's had three anaesthetics and come through them brilliantly. Jerry Lee never complains and honestly is the perfect patient to treat. He's been under the knife to be neutered, he then had an emergency dash to the afterhours clinic as he suddenly developed a twisted stomach and spleen. Then most



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