Degenerative Myelopathy tests and Bernese Mountain Dogs



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Degenerative myelopathy: a fatal neurodegenerative disease

age of onset: late, from 8 years old to older No sex predisposition

What is observed:

Loss of coordination in the rear limbs until paraplegia Loss of urinary and fecal continence

Disease is progressive, the duration can exceed 3 years but euthanasia is often elected when the dog becomes paraplegic.

Definitive diagnostic is post-mortem by the histopathologic observation of axonal and myelin degeneration

Many canine breeds are affected by DM.



In 2009: a first mutation for all the breeds

Genome-wide association analysis reveals a *SOD1* mutation in canine degenerative myelopathy that resembles amyotrophic lateral sclerosis

Tomoyuki Awano^a, Gary S. Johnson^{a,1}, Claire M. Wade^{b,c}, Martin L. Katz^{a,d}, Gayle C. Johnson^a, Jeremy F. Taylor^e, Michele Perloski^b, Tara Biagi^b, Izabella Baranowska^f, Sam Long^g, Philip A. March^h, Natasha J. Olbyⁱ, G. Diane Shelton^j, Shahnawaz Khan^a, Dennis P. O'Brien^k, Kerstin Lindblad-Toh^{b,l}, and Joan R. Coates^k

In 2011: a second mutation for the BMD only

Degenerative Myelopathy in a Bernese Mountain Dog with a Novel SOD1 Missense Mutation

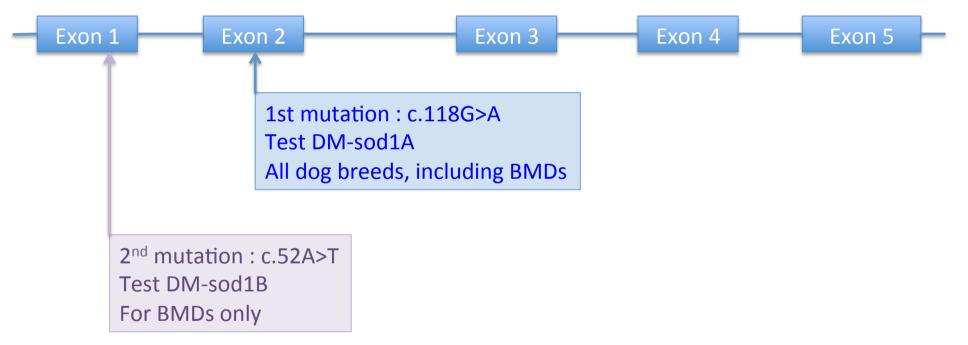
F.A. Wininger, R. Zeng, G.S. Johnson, M.L. Katz, G.C. Johnson, W.W. Bush, J.M. Jarboe, and J.R. Coates



What we have:

One disease

Two mutations in one same gene : SOD1



Inheritance: autosomal recessive



What are the possibilities for one dog?

	SOD1-A	SOD1-B	Disease status	
11	Clear	Clear	Healthy	
₹	Heterozygous	Clear	Healthy	
₹	Clear	Heterozygous	Healthy	
	Mutated	Clear	Affected	
	Clear	Mutated	Affected	

What else?

	SOD1-A	SOD1-B	Disease status
?	Heterozygous	Heterozygous	



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~	Heterozygous	Clear	Healthy	
₹	Clear	Heterozygous	Healthy	
	Mutated	Clear	Affected	
	Clear	Mutated	Affected	

What else?

	SOD1-A	SOD1-B	Disease status
T	Heterozygous	Heterozygous	Affected in (almost) all cases

Other possibilities are very very rare



	SOD1-A	SOD1-B	Disease status
A	Heterozygous	Heterozygous	Affected in almost all cases





One individual but two copies of the gene SOD1





One copy with the with the mutation SOD1-A SOD1-B

None of the copies are normal

None of them are functional -> animal =affected



What about matings?

Dog A	Dog B	Puppies
1		A A A A
1	Either 1st or 2 nd mut	
	Either 1st or 2 nd mut	
	17	

Dog A Dog B		Puppies					
SOD1-A		SOD1-A		1			1
SOD1-B		SOD1-B		1			1



What about matings?

Dog A	Dog B	Puppies
1		
	Either 1st or 2 nd mut	
	Either 1st or 2 nd mut	
1	1	

Dog A	A	Dog	В	Puppies			
SOD1-A		SOD1-A		1			1
SOD1-B		SOD1-B	1	1			

What about mating an heterozygote SOD1-A with an heterozygote SOD1-B? Is this like two independent mutations?



What about matings?

Dog A	Dog B	Puppies
1		
1	Either 1st or 2 nd mut	
1	Either 1st or 2 nd mut	
1	1	

Dog A Dog B		Puppies						
SOD1-A		SOD1-A		1			1	
SOD1-B		SOD1-B		1				
SOD1-A		SOD1-B		1			1	

Any other mating produce affected dogs.



Frequencies

SOD1-A (1st mutation): for the BMDs, over 750 tested dogs – European Countries

47,2% healthy

42,5% heterozygous

10,3% mutated dog

SOD1-B (2nd mutation): for the BMDs, over 650 tested dogs – European Countries

82,3% healthy

17,1% heterozygous

0,6% mutated dog



Resume

Two mutations:

1st mutation: c.118G>A

Test DM-sod1A

All dog breeds, including BMDs

2nd mutation: c.52A>T

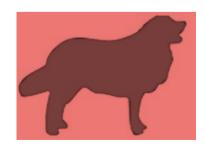
Test DM-sod1B

For BMDs only

High frequency

Moderate frequency BUT be careful!

Breeders have to test both mutations and be careful with their matings



Double heterozygote dog is affected, mating two « simple » heterozygotes has to be avoided





Thanks for your attention

Question?

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