

CANINE COGNITIVE DYSFUNCTION SYNDROME (CDS)

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OBJECTIVES

- Better owner awareness
- Better veterinary care with **more treatment options**

WHEN DOES CDS START?

- Depending on the breed, on average, around seven years of age
- **Longer life expectancy** of pets - more age-related problems
- Pathology develops **gradually, desensitising owners to the changes**

»He's just getting old! There is no treatment for his condition.«



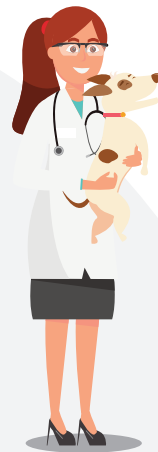
RULE OUT OTHER COMMON CO-MORBIDITIES IN OLDER DOGS:

- Pain
- Arthritis
- Losing vision
- Losing hearing
- Pathologies of internal organs, etc.

»There is no »youth water«. The goal is to delay cognitive losses. CDS is **progressive** and irreversible.«

TREATMENT

- 1. Brain stimulation**
Cognitive exercises, environmental modification, more stimulating and predictable daily routine, reinforcing desirable behaviours and ceasing any form of punishment
- 2. Pharmacotherapy**
 - Selegiline, propentofylline, nicergoline
 - Sleep regulators (melatonin)
 - Benzodiazepines (lorazepam, oxazepam)
 - Aromatherapy, pheromones, l-tryptophan, casozepine
- 3. Nutrition**
Enriched with medium-chain triglycerides, e.g. coconut oil
- 4. Supplements**
Vitamin E and C, phosphatidylserine, omega-3 fatty acids, selenium, Ginkgo biloba, resveratrol, vitamin B6



HOW TO DIAGNOSE CDS?

- Changes on the brain visible on MRI or CT
- Questionnaires for owners based on

D-I-S-H-A + A

- D** • disorientation
- I** • interaction
- S** • sleep/wake cycles
- H** • house soiling
- A** • activity
- +**
- A** • anxiety

Owners should **always** consult the vet:

- Regular follow-ups (twice-annual visits)
 - To discuss different treatment protocols
 - To monitor the response to the treatment
 - Clinical and blood checkups
 - Assessing the quality of life

Link to the interview
bit.ly/FECAVA_CDS

