Segregation Analysis of Canine Hip Dysplasia in Cane Corso Italiano Dogs

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Submission: January 01, 2018; Published: January 12, 2018

Introduction

Canine hip dysplasia affects dogs of all breeds, and is the most frequent orthopaedic disease in large and giant breed dogs. Radiology has commonly been used for diagnosis of CHD. Three somewhat different international scoring methods were developed. The Federation Cynologique Internationale (FCI) official guidelines were used for scoring the CHD. Offspring segregation of CHD from parental crosses containing combinations of parents’ CHD between CHD score A, B, and C were analyzed. Results are summarized in Figure 2-7. Offspring segregation of crossing (male A x female B) was compared with the reciprocal crossing (male B x female A). Genes responsible for CHD are probably located on autosomes, therefore reciprocal crossing gave the same results.

Most (59.9%) of CHD-A scored offspring arose from male CHD-A x female CHD-A crosses. 50.0% CHD-A scored offspring arose from the male CHD-A x female CHD-B crosses, and 47.1% CHD-A scored offspring arose from the male CHD-A x female CHD-C crosses. Only 35.3% CHD-A scored offspring arose from the male CHD-B x female CHD-B crosses, and 16.7% CHD-A scored offspring arose from male CHD-C x female CHD-C crosses. Surprisingly, crosses between one parent CHD-A scored and second parent CHD-C scored enabled substantially more CHD-A scored offspring, compared to crosses of both parents CHD-B scored.

These results suggest that an optimal Cane Corso Italiano breeding programme for reducing CHD should employ crosses of males and females, both CHD-A scored. Cane Corso Italiano breeders should realize regularly crosses of both parents CHD-A scored, rarely crosses of one parent CHD-A scored and second parent CHD-B scored and exceptionally crosses of one parent CHD-A scored and second CHD-C scored. Responsible breeders should exclude any crosses of both parents worse than CHD-A scored. The main pedigreed breeding males should be only CHD-A scored.

Keywords: Canine hip dysplasia; Cane corso italiano; Breeding programme; Hip scores; Selective breeding

Abbreviations: CHD: Canine Hip Dysplasia; FCI: Federation Cynologique Internationale; OFA: Orthopaedic Foundation for Animals; EBV: Estimated Breeding Values

Abstract

Segregation analysis of canine hip dysplasia (CHD) was studied for the first time in Cane Corso Italiano dogs. Data was obtained from 1813 dogs, using the Cane Corso Italiano Pedigree Database (www.canecorsopedigree.com).

Most (59.9%) of CHD-A scored offspring arose from male CHD-A x female CHD-A crosses. 50.0% CHD-A scored offspring arose from the male CHD-A x female CHD-B crosses, and 47.1% CHD-A scored offspring arose from the male CHD-A x female CHD-C crosses. Only 35.3% CHD-A scored offspring arose from the male CHD-B x female CHD-B crosses, and 16.7% CHD-A scored offspring arose from male CHD-C x female CHD-C crosses. Surprisingly, crosses between one parent CHD-A scored and second parent CHD-C scored enabled substantially more CHD-A scored offspring, compared to crosses of both parents CHD-B scored. These results suggest that an optimal Cane Corso Italiano breeding programme for reducing CHD should employ crosses of males and females, both CHD-A scored. Cane Corso Italiano breeders should realize regularly crosses of both parents CHD-A scored, rarely crosses of one parent CHD-A scored and second parent CHD-B scored and exceptionally crosses of one parent CHD-A scored and second CHD-C scored. Responsible breeders should exclude any crosses of both parents worse than CHD-A scored. The main pedigreed breeding males should be only CHD-A scored.
Results and Discussion

Offspring segregation of CHD from parental crosses containing parents’ CHD combinations between CHD scored A, B, and C were analyzed. Results are summarized in Figure 2-7. Offspring segregation of parental crossing (male A x female B) was compared with reciprocal crossing (male B x female A).

Figure 1: Photograph of a Cane Corso Italiano dog (Koleta Atison, Evžen Korec’s archive).

Figure 2: Parental crosses male CHD-A x female CHD-A.

Figure 3: Parental crosses male CHD-B x female CHD-B.

Figure 4: Parental crosses male CHD-C x female CHD-C.

Figure 5: Parental crosses male CHD-A x female CHD-B, male CHD-B x female CHD-A.

Figure 6: Parental crosses male CHD-A x female CHD-C, male CHD-C x female CHD-A.
Most (59.9%) of CHD-A scored offspring arose from male CHD-A x female CHD-A crosses, 50.0% CHD-A offspring arose from male CHD-A x female CHD-B crosses, and 47.1% CHD-A scored offspring arose from male CHD-A x female CHD-C. Only 35.3% CHD-A offspring arose from male CHD-B x female CHD-B crosses, and 16.7% CHD-A scored offspring arose from male CHD-C x female CHD-C crosses.

Interesting, and for breeders valuable, is our finding that male CHD-A x female CHD-C crosses or reciprocal crosses of male CHD-C x female CHD-A enable substantially more CHD-A scored offspring, compared to male CHD-B x female CHD-B crosses.

These results suggest that some dominant gene or genes are responsible for the CHD-A phenotype. Reciprocal crosses gave approximately sam eof offspring segregation of CHD. Minor differences are probably caused by the fact that also environmental (not only genetics) factors influence the CHD-score. The genes responsible for the CHD-status are probably located on the autosomes. Our results suggest that the optimal breeding programme for the reduction of the prevalence of CHD should employ crosses of males and females that are both CHD-A scored. Breeders should regularly realize these crosses, rarely crosses of one parent CHD-A scored and second CHD-B scored, and exceptionally crosses of one parent CHD-A scored and second CHD-C scored. Responsible breeders should exclude all crosses of both parents worse than CHD-A scored. The main pedigreed breeding males should only be CHD-A scored.

References


