

The 6 Most Common

Yorkshire Terrier Ailments

There are several **Yorkshire terrier ailments** that can make your pet yorkie to suffer. These ailments, however, are imminent in the later years of their lives.

Abscess

This can appear anywhere on the yorkie's body and consists of raised pus-filled, swollen area that is very painful. The swelling increases until eventually it bursts and discharges pus and blood. Abscess can be treated with a hot poultice and a course of antibiotics.

An untreated abscess can lead to more serious complications, so always consult your veterinarian.

Anal Problems

Two small scent glands on either side of the rectum are present in both Yorkshire terrier dogs and bitches. These anal glands normally empty during bowel movement, but if this fails to happen – the yorkie dog will suffer discomfort.

Signs to look for are: the yorkie dragging its bottom along the ground, or continually biting under its tail. The anal glands can be expressed very easily by a veterinarian and it is possible to learn how to do this by you.

Arthritis and Rheumatism

These conditions are seen more often in the older yorkie dog and manifest themselves in stiffness of the joints. It is important if your yorkie has either condition, to keep him warm and dry you must not allow it to become overweight – as this puts extra stress on swollen and stiff joints.

Treatment with modern drugs or complementary medicine can give some relief from the pain.

Cystitis

This is an inflammation of the bladder causing the yorkie to urinate frequently or to dribble urine. It is sometimes accompanied by vomiting. You may also see blood in the urine. If the cystitis is caused by a stone, the yorkie may be unable to urinate.

In any case, it is advisable to consult your veterinarian.

Diabetes

The first signs of diabetes are severe thirst and considerable loss of weight. If diabetes is diagnosed in the early stages and it is a mild case, it may be possible to control it simply by diet.

More severely affected yorkies may have to take oral medicine and some will need insulin injections on a daily basis.

Diarrhoea

This can occur for many reasons: even stress or a simple over-indulgence in food can bring on an attack. Give no food for 24 hours, but provide frequent, small quantities of cooled, boiled water or ice cubes. If the diarrhoea stops within the 24-hour period, feeding can recommence with a very light diet of white meat and rice.