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Doctor's Copy

PennHIP Report

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Patient Information

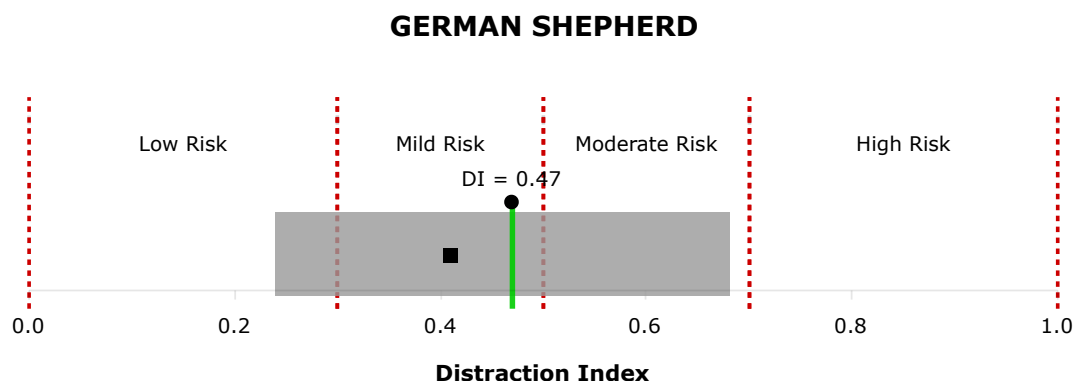|	
Client: Hanrahan, Lee	Tattoo Num:
Patient Name: Rhine	Patient ID: 18674
Reg. Name: Riverside High Drives	Registration Num: FD-ML4352807
PennHIP Num: 219522	Microchip Num: 981189900157499
Species: Canine	Breed: GERMAN SHEPHERD
Date of Birth: 16 Jun 2024	Age: 14 months
Sex: Female	Weight: 69.2 lbs/31.4 kgs
Date of Study: 07 Aug 2025	Date Submitted: 07 Aug 2025
Date of Report: 07 Aug 2025	

Findings

Distraction Index (DI): Right DI = 0.47, Left DI = 0.44.

Osteoarthritis (OA): **No radiographic evidence of OA for either hip.**

Cavitation/Other Findings: No cavitation present.

Interpretation

Distraction Index (DI): The laxity ranking is based on the hip with the greater laxity (larger DI). In this case the DI used is 0.47.

OA Risk Category: The DI is between 0.31 and 0.49. This patient is at mild risk for hip OA.

Distraction Index Chart:

GERMAN SHEPHERD

Low Risk   Mild Risk   Moderate Risk   High Risk

DI = 0.47

0.0   0.2   0.4   0.6   0.8   1.0

Distraction Index

BREED STATISTICS: This interpretation is based on a cross-section of 20300 canine patients of the GERMAN SHEPHERD breed in the AIS PennHIP database. The gray strip represents the central 90% range of DIs (0.24 - 0.68) for the breed. The breed average DI is 0.41 (solid square). The patient DI is the solid circle (0.47).

SUMMARY: The degree of laxity (DI = 0.47) falls within the central 90% range of DIs for the breed. This amount of hip laxity places the hip at a mild risk to develop hip OA. **No radiographic evidence of OA for either hip.**

INTERPRETATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS: No OA/Mild Risk: Low risk to develop radiographic
evidence of hip OA early in life, however OA may manifest after 6 years of age or later. Risk of OA increases as DI, age, body weight, and activity level increase. OA susceptibility is breed specific, larger breeds being more susceptible.

Recommendations: Evidence-based strategies to lower the risk of dogs developing hip OA or to treat those having OA fall into 5 modalities.* For detailed information, consult these documents.* Use any or all of these modalities as needed:

1) For acute or chronic pain prescribe NSAID PO short or long term. Amantadine can be added if response is marginal or if a neuropathic component to the pain is suspected.
2) Optimize body weight, keep lean, at BCS = 5/9.
3) Prescribe therapeutic exercise at intensities that do not precipitate lameness.
4) Administer polysulfated glycosaminoglycans IM or SQ, so-called DMOAD.
5) Feed an EPA-rich prescription diet preventatively for dogs at risk for OA or therapeutically for dogs already showing radiographic signs of OA.

At the present time there is inadequate evidence to confidently recommend any of the many other remedies to prevent or treat OA. Studies are in progress. Consider repeating radiographs at periodic intervals to determine the rate of OA progression and adjust treatment accordingly. Older dogs may show clinical signs such as chronic pain, reluctance to go stairs or jump onto the bed, and stiffness particularly after resting. It is unlikely that end-stage hip disease will develop for dogs at this risk level so surgical therapy for the pain of hip OA would rarely be indicated.

Breeding Recommendations: Please consult the PennHIP Manual.

* From 2022 WSAVA guidelines for the recognition, assessment and treatment of pain and the 2022 AAHA Pain Management Guidelines for Dogs and Cats

COMMENTS:

*IMPORTANT: Please load images so that the dog's Right side appears on the Left side of the screen. The Distraction image was uploaded with the marker on the wrong side. Our new AI measurement system therefore assigned the DIs to the opposite hips (requiring images to be oriented correctly and to use manual Index score measurement, thereby increasing evaluation time). The system has not been perfected enough yet to orient side markers correctly.