

MUSCULAR

Fibromyositis of the Gracillus Muscle - This is an uncommon condition seen almost exclusively in GSD and less commonly in the Belgian Shepherd and the Dobermann. This is a progressing disorder affecting the gracillus muscle (and secondarily the semi-tendinosus muscle) on the inside of the hindquarter. The condition results in the progressive replacement of normal muscle tissue with fibrous tissue, resulting in severe contraction of the affected muscle.

This condition is not considered genetic in origin, but is triggered by some abnormality of the immune system creating the inflammatory fibrous changes within the affected muscle group. The numbers seen with this condition are very small, usually only affecting 1-2 GSD's every 4-5 years in Australia (when they are picked up!).

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