

## A Retrospective Medical Record Review of Dogs with Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia: 37 Cases (2014-2018)

**Objective:** Describe clinical signs of benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH), in a well-defined clinical population of client-owned dogs.

**Animals:** 37 intact male dogs of any age, breed, or weight, and absent of prostatic neoplasia that were clinically diagnosed with BPH, and had a prostatic ultrasound and bacterial culture of urine, semen, or prostatic cytology performed.

**Procedures:** The Zambelli Symptom Index for BPH in Dogs (ZSI-BPH) was used to assess symptom severity in dogs meeting our case definition. Expected prostate size was calculated, prevalence of concurrent bacterial prostatitis and ultrasound characteristics were recorded, and response to treatment in cases with a minimum of 2 months follow-up summarized.

**Results:** There were no significant associations between prostate size and ZSI-BPH. True prostate size was less than expected, not greater. In patients with non-cystic BPH, there was a significant increase in ZSI-BPH in those cases with concurrent bacterial infection. After dogs with BPH were neutered prostatic size decreased, however there was no significant reduction in ZSI-BPH scores for dogs treated with castration or medical therapy.

**Conclusions and Clinical Relevance:** Prostate volume is a poor predictor of symptom severity, and urine culture is more informative. Measurement of prostate size and comparison to expected based on the dogs weight and age should be performed to quantitatively confirm prostatomegaly and reduce overdiagnosis. Future focus on reducing clinical signs in addition to prostate size is needed in order to improve BPH treatment practices.