

CASE 9

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Ref. No.

This dog comes from a closely inbred strain of West Highland Terriers in which a genetically dominated neurological disease has appeared in approximately one out of four offspring of a brother-sister or a mother-son mating. The affected pups appear normal at birth, but very quickly show a progressive disability manifested by weakness and finally paralysis of the rear extremities and a coarse tremor affecting the head as well as the trunk and limbs. Throughout this relentless progressing deterioration, the animal appears alert and responsive. It has been necessary to sacrifice these animals at 4 to 5 months of life because of decubitus ulcers and inanition.

Diagnosis: Globoid-body leukodystrophy.

Stain: Luxol fast blue-periodic acid Schiff-hematoxylin.