Elbow disease in dogs
A big problem for big dogs

This study evaluated the frequency, predispositions and clinical management of elbow joint disease in dogs in the UK.

Elbow disease contributed to the decision to euthanase in 41% of dogs that died during the study.

Both elbows were affected in 61% of cases.

Breed with highest risk of elbow joint disease
(Risk level compared to Crossbreeds)

- Rottweiler: 6.2x
- Labrador Retriever: 5.9x
- German Shepherd Dog: 4.1x
- Golden Retriever: 3.1x
- English Springer Spaniel: 2.0x

Elbow joint disease affects 0.6% of dogs under primary veterinary care.

76% LAMENESS
20% DIFFICULTY EXERCISING
14% PAIN

Larger breeds are most at risk.

Owners should be alert to the early signs of elbow joint disease as their dogs age and seek veterinary advice if signs develop.

This study included 804 elbow disease cases from 455,069 dogs under primary veterinary care in the UK during 2013.

O’Neill, D.G. et al. (2020) “Epidemiology and clinical management of elbow joint disease in dogs under primary veterinary care in the UK” Canine Genetics and Epidemiology (Freely available)