

## Proliferative Arteritis of the Nasal Philtrum

Proliferative Arteritis of the Nasal Philtrum is a disease in which animals develop ulcers of the nasal philtrum due to inflammation of the arterioles. Occasionally, extensive hemorrhage due to arterial bleeding will occur.

The underlying cause of the disease is still unknown but research suggests that inflammation of the arterial walls leads to progressive thickening. Eventually, partial blockage occurs causing local cell death, necrosis, and ulceration.



In documented cases, dog breeds that were affected were the Saint Bernard, Giant Schnauzer, and Newfoundland.

Diagnosis is determined by history and clinical findings. Animals present with linear ulcers ranging in size from 3-5 cm in length and 2-5 mm in width found on the nasal philtrum. Observation of arterial bleeding from the ulcers is often noted. Severe cases of arterial bleeding may require surgical repair.

Several treatment options have been documented. A combination of the antibiotic tetracycline and niacinamide given orally in addition to topical application of tacrolimus ointment has been proven successful. Also, the

use of the steroid prednisone given orally has been tried with or without topical application of the medication Synotic.