Troy Zimmerman’s German Shepherd Dog, Jade, was 18 months old at diagnosis and lost 20 pounds before the correct diagnosis was made, with a change of veterinarians. She now weighs 58 pounds (see photos). Jade has resumed protection training. Troy stated that she is very toy driven, which is used as a training reward.

Resources

Your veterinarian is a primary resource. But because of many veterinarians’ lack of experience with EPI, other sources are critical. A basic printed source is The Merck Veterinary Manual. There are also invaluable Internet websites. The most important public website is www.EPI4dogs.com. This site, founded by Olesia Kennedy, who also wrote an article entitled “Starving, Not Starved” for the March 2009 Whole Dog Journal, provides basic information, links to other resources, abstracts of research articles, photographs, and a forum for questions and answers. A private, membership-only, Yahoo based international group forum is at groups.yahoo.com/group/k9–EPI–GLOBAL/. It is an excellent resource for day-to-day problems and issues in dogs already diagnosed with EPI. www.enzymediane.com is a source for generic digestive enzymes at a reasonable price.

Texas A & M University has several helpful websites.
For general information, see
www.cvm.tamu.edu/gilab/shtml
For vitamin B12 testing, see
www.cvm.tamu.edu/gilab/research/cobalamin.shtml
For cTLI testing, see
www.cvm.tamu.edu/gilab/assays/TLI/shtml

The author is not a veterinarian. She is the owner of an EPI–diagnosed dog. The information contained in this article is the result of personal experience or research obtained from the sources cited above. The information in this article does not replace or supersede the professional advice of a veterinarian.

The Schutzhund USA Youth Scholarship is conducting a fundraising activity with Malley’s Chocolates of Cleveland, Ohio. A website has been setup specifically for the The Schutzhund USA Youth Scholarship fundraising campaign.

www.malleys.com

All purchases made on that site will directly benefit The Schutzhund USA Youth Scholarship.

Thank you very much,
The Schutzhund USA Youth Scholarship