

by your vet) – stopping anticonvulsant medicines suddenly can cause your dog's seizures to return. Once your dog is on anticonvulsants, your vet may want to run blood tests from time-to-time to make sure that everything is OK.

Outlook

If your dog has idiopathic epilepsy, their outlook is good – once they have been stabilised on medication (anticonvulsants) their seizures are likely to stop altogether or become much less severe/frequent.

Sadly, a very small number of cases don't respond to medication. If your dog is having a large number of seizures that can't be controlled it may be kinder to put them to sleep.

Prevention

You can't prevent idiopathic epilepsy, only treat it if it develops. Don't breed from a dog with epilepsy – they may pass the condition on to their pups.

Cost

Treatment for a pet with epilepsy can become very expensive over time. Consider insuring your dog as soon as you get them, before any signs of illness start. This will ensure you have all the support you need to care for them.

It's also very important to speak openly to your vet about your finances, the cost of treatment, as well as what you think is right for your dog. There are often several treatment options so if one doesn't work for you and your pet then the vet may be able to offer another.

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