Did You Know That Some Animals Can Have Chiari?

Did you know that animals can have Chiari too? Small dogs like the King Charles Cavalier and even lions can have Chiari. A lion named Ramses was flown to have surgery by medical experts at the University of Tennessee. Ramses arrived via FedEx from Puerto Rico. The big cat weighed 330 pounds, with thick sharp teeth and fluffy tan mane. The University of Tennessee has done three other surgeries on lions in the US but this was the first one on a lion from another country. His owners wanted him to have the BEST care. I am sure some of you can relate to having to travel to doctors like Ramses had to. The big cat had symptoms of dizziness and lethargy, which is a fancy word meaning that he was sleeping all the time. Surgery went well and he was much better. Ramses’ brother, who was born on the same day, also was born with Chiari and had surgery as well. So that is just one more thing that is similar to people with Chiari. Maybe in some of your families more than one person has Chiari. In our family all four of our kids have Chiari.

If you would like to learn more about "The Chiari Cats" and about the place where they live, you can read about them at http://www.TigerHaven.org.
Canine Chiari-like Malformation & Syringomyelia (CM/SM)

King Charles Cavaliers are a small breed dog. They have a silky, smooth coat that is usually one or more colors. They can be one of the following colors: chestnut and white, tricolor which is black/white/tan, black and tan, and/or ruby. They are very friendly pups. They are affectionate and good with both children and other animals. They are also one of the breeds of dogs that has a high occurrence of Chiari and syringomyelia.

Cavaliers can also have many symptoms just like people who have CM and SM. They can have pain in their head and neck just like we can. Cavaliers can also have issues with falling down and balance. They are also prone to having mitral valve and heart murmurs.

Cavaliers even have their very own set of specialized doctors just like you! They have board certified veterinary neurologists and board certified veterinary cardiologists. I bet you have your specialists to help you keep feeling well just like these dogs do. They undergo similar surgeries to help with their CM and SM issues. To learn more about the King Charles Cavaliers you can visit http://www.cavalierhealth.org.

We have a challenge for you!

See if you can find some words about autumn in this puzzle.

Let us know what you like about Kid’s Connection and what we can do better!

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