WHAT IS YOUR DIAGNOSIS

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Figure 1  A  Lateral position of the thoracic vertebrae of a dog.
          B  Lateral position of the lumbar vertebrae of a dog.

Figure 2  Lateral position of the caudal abdomen of the same dog.

Figure 3  Pneumocystograph of the same dog.

History:
An 8 year old male Chow Chow showed symptoms of being reluctant to climb up stairs which has got worse in the last 2 months. Urine incontinency has been noticed during the previous 3 weeks along with a decreased appetite. A physical examination revealed urine retention and abdominal pain. A mass anterior to the pelvic inlet could be palpated.
A plain radiograph of the thoraco-lumbar and caudal abdomen were taken to study the urinary bladder, pneumocystography was also performed.
Give your diagnosis and turn to the next page.

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Radiographic Diagnosis

Prostatic hypertrophy (Hypertrophy of prostate gland)

Radiographic Findings and Comments

A lateral radiograph of the thoraco-lumbar area (Fig.1) revealed spondylosis between L7 - S1 without lysis of the endplates and narrow the intervertebral space. A plain lateral radiograph of the caudal abdomen (Fig.2) revealed cranial displacement with retention in the urinary bladder which is seen on the floor of an abdomen. There is a space-occupying mass anterior to the pelvic inlet, posterior to urinary bladder, which represented enlargement of the prostate gland.

Several clinical signs such as strangulia, hematuria and dyschezia may found in dogs with prostatic enlargement. The abnormal hind limb gait was also observed by the owner as the dog was refusing to climb and jump.