



# Recognising and responding to dog-dog predation in retired racing greyhounds









Predatory behaviour is:

- Quiet (unless frustrated)
- Extremely fast
- Not dependent on arousal
- Stimulus bound (e.g. triggered by noise or jerky movement)
- **FUN!** inherently reinforcing



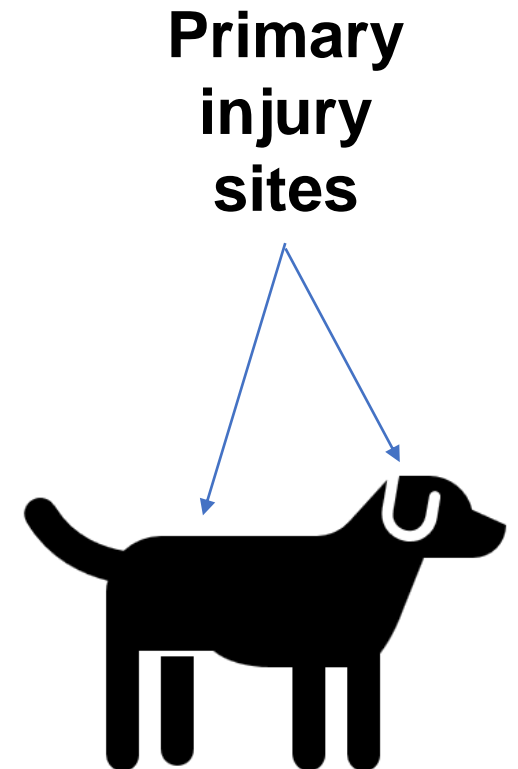




# Common post-attack presentation

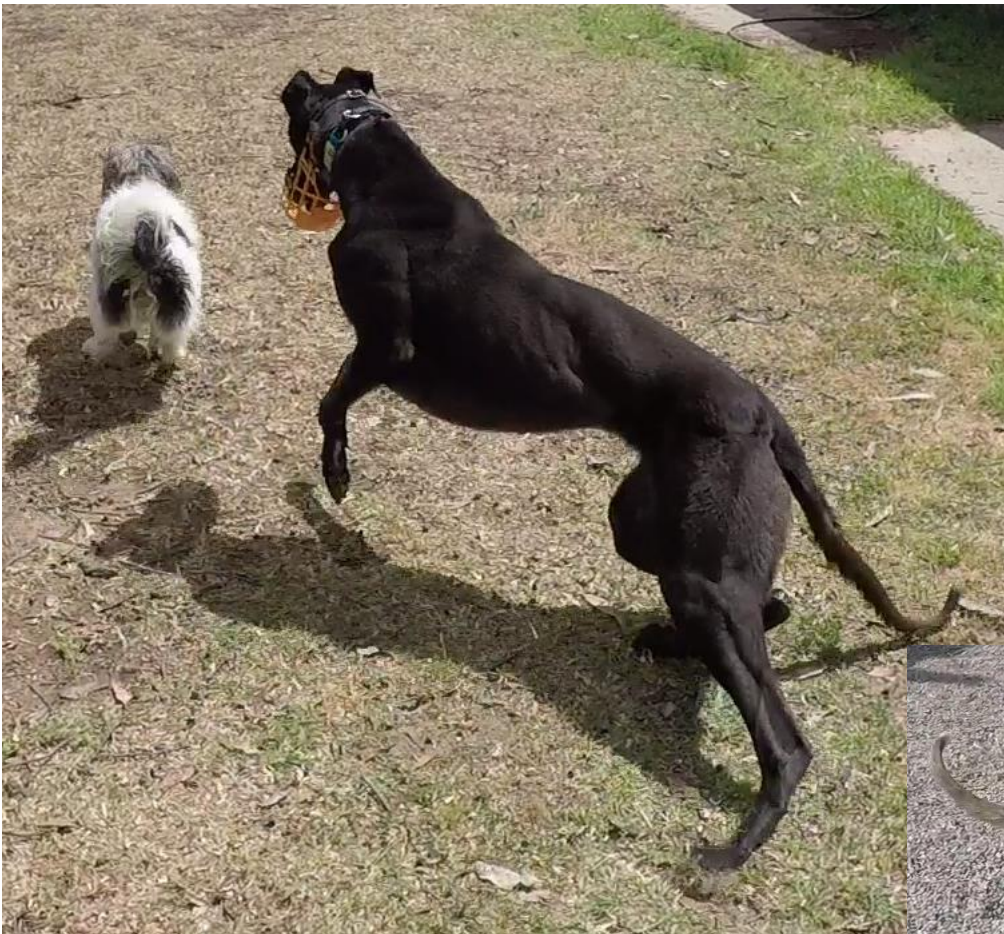


- Victim animal
  - Biting, shaking, and crushing injuries
  - Dorsal injury sites most common (neck, shoulders and back)
  - Small, fast moving, fluffy, noisy
  - Rare to be attacked front-on
- Attacking dog
  - ‘Thought he was being friendly’
  - Commonly off lead or dragged handler
  - Upright and forward stance
  - Tail wagging
  - Common for little or no history of social aggression





# Precursor behaviours



Stalking and chasing

Visual or physical  
'tracking'



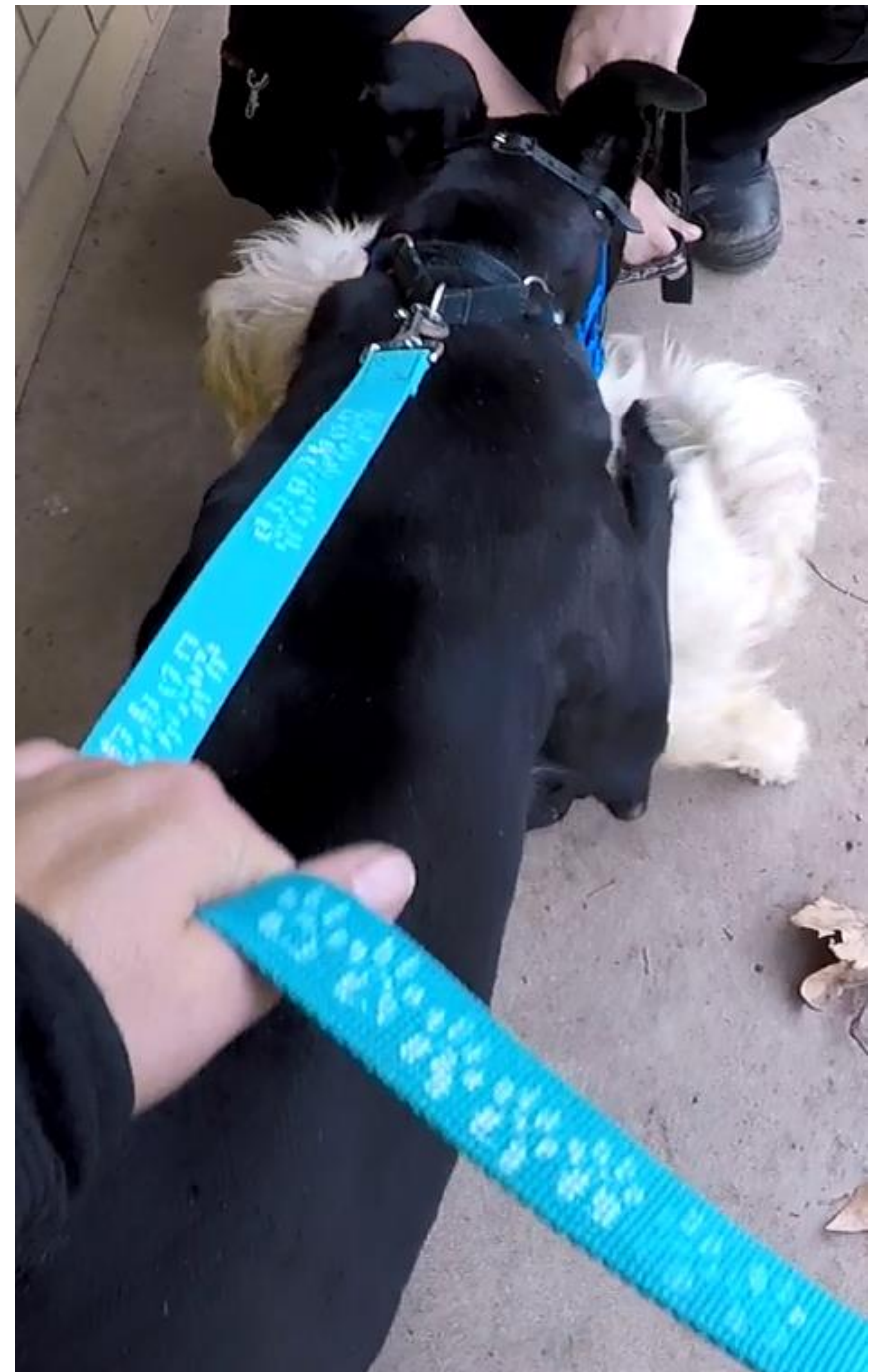


# Precursor behaviours



Intense focus/  
hard to  
distract

Pawing and  
wrapping

























# Prevention of predatory attacks by greyhounds

- Keep greyhounds on lead!
  - Majority of dog-dog predation we see is off-lead
- Use well-fitted martingale collars
- Use muzzles where concerns about on lead behaviour
- Help owners to recognise predatory behaviours in social setting
- Beware of housing requirements
  - No ability for other animals to put limbs of head in to yard (e.g. under gate)
  - Greyhounds usually poor jumpers and climbers



