



Angie is a young seven years old. She is a chocolate dapple Miniature Dachshund. She loves Kong balls, loofah toys, and carrots. She has always been an active dog, and is friendly and affectionate.

In March, Angie underwent an MRI for what was originally assumed to be a disc issue. She did have a compressed disc, but an unexpected additional issue was that she also was found to have a syrinx (like a cyst but full of spinal fluid) that has travels the length of her entire spinal cord. This is pretty unusual for a person or animal with a Chiari malformation, as she was asymptomatic. We were lucky, as her breed is not known to have this issue, and other than her disc issue there were no apparent symptoms.

The neurosurgeon checked her old MRIs to confirm that a syrinx was not there in the past. Her skull malformation was apparent, but there were no symptoms of spinal cord fluid issues.

We can prevent her syrinx from worsening by removing the extra piece of skull causing the pressure. The neurologist is confident that this surgery will help Angie live a normal lifespan with a good quality of life. However, time is of the essence. Any damage caused by the syrinx worsening would not be reversible.

The disc compression affected her ability to walk and caused significant pain, so that was operated on first. After a bit of a battle with Angie's insurance, the pet insurance kicked for some of the costs. They will not cover any of her Chiari surgery, even the hospital stay, since it falls under a congenital condition.

We truly appreciate the help that Paws 4 A Cure is offering us, and hope to continue to raise funds for Angie's surgery.

~ Angie's Mom