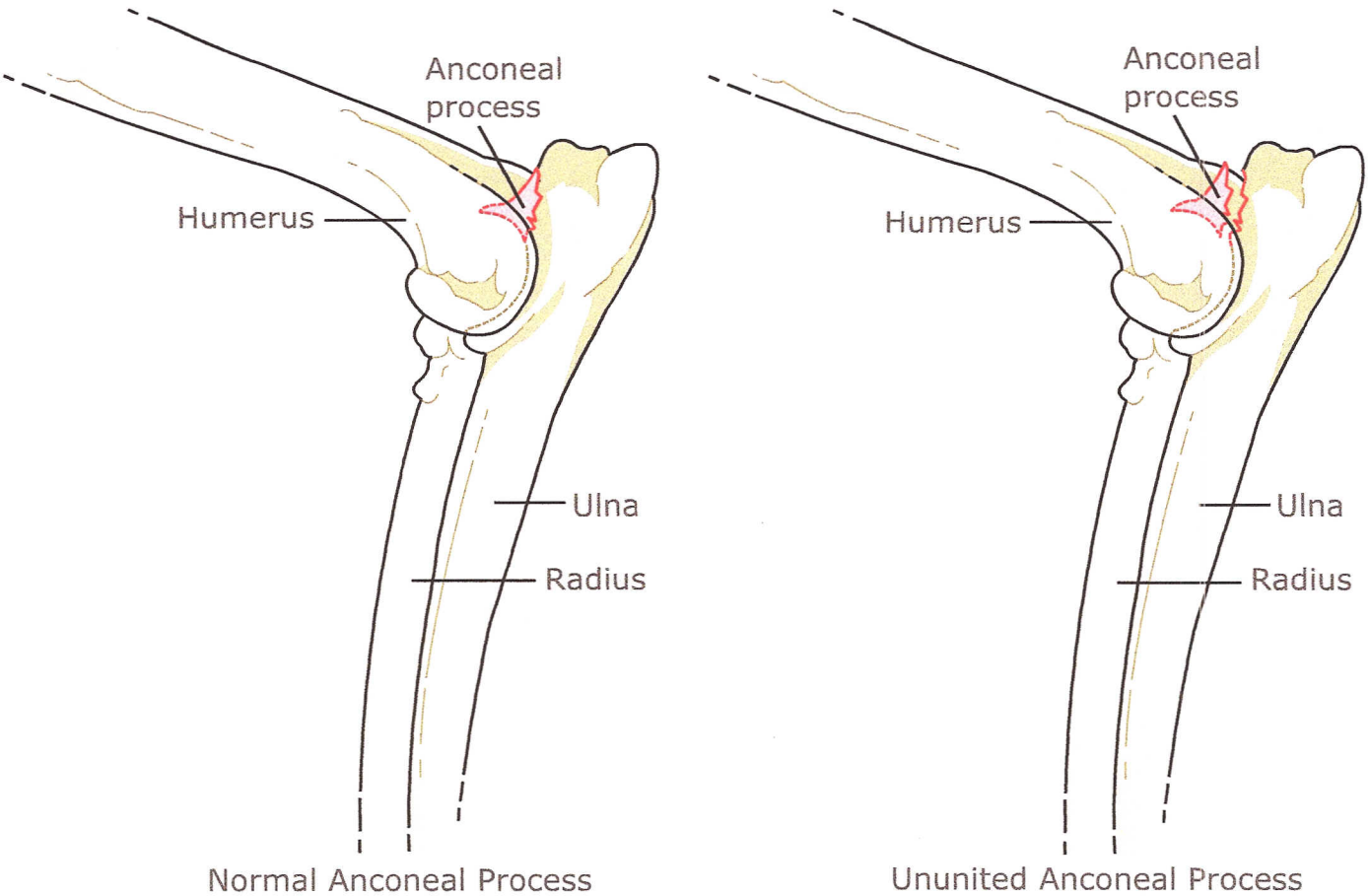


Ununited Anconeal Process: Pathophysiology of UAP.



Normal Anconeal Process

Ununited Anconeal Process

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The anconeal process is a small piece of bone that forms part of the back surface of the elbow joint. A hereditary problem called ununited anconeal process (UAP) or 'elbow dysplasia' occurs in some large breed dogs, especially German Shepherds. There is a growth plate that involves the anconeal process. In affected animals, an abnormality in this growth plate occurs and the process fails to fuse or unite to the main part of the ulna. The joint will be unstable, causing lameness and pain, progressing to degenerative joint disease. The bone fragment may float freely in the joint, causing further discomfort. Usually the condition shows up when the dog is about 6 months old. The condition requires surgical repair. Affected dogs should not be used for breeding.