

Current Research

We are currently researching the genetics of Hereditary Cataract in many other breeds including Golden Retrievers, American Cocker Spaniels, Huskies, Miniature Schnauzers, Large Munsterlanders, Rhodesian Ridgebacks and Old English Sheepdogs. Once complete, the research will enable us to develop DNA tests for these breeds too.

How are samples obtained?

At the AHT, our strategy is to obtain DNA samples for our research from the general pet population, rather than from affected animals bred solely for research. This is preferable on welfare grounds as it avoids the deliberate breeding of animals suffering from inherited diseases.

These DNA samples can be extracted either from cells collected from the inside of a dog's cheek or, preferably, from a small volume of blood taken for a health check.



AHT Canine Genetics Tests

On the opposite side of this leaflet, is the list of tests we offer at the AHT. As a non-profit making organisation, our tests are priced to cover costs – anything on top of this will be re-invested in our research programme into animal diseases and welfare. All prices include VAT at 17.5%.

Contacting Us

Mouth swabs for sampling must be obtained from the Animal Health Trust and are available free of charge from swab.request@aht.org.uk or by telephone to 08700 509144. General enquiries by e-mail should be addressed to dnatesting@aht.org.uk, or by telephone to 08700 509144.

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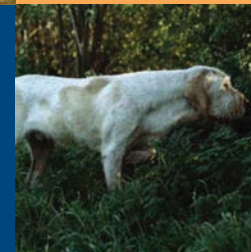


Animal Health Trust

AHT Canine Genetics

at the

Animal Health Trust





The focus of canine genetics at the AHT is on the identification of mutations responsible for inherited diseases and the development of diagnostic tests for disease mutations.

These tests provide the essential information breeders need to avoid the birth of affected puppies and improve the overall health and welfare of their breed.

For most genetic diseases, DNA testing is the only way to distinguish dogs clear of the mutation from symptomless carriers. Carriers with one copy of a mutation generally show no signs of disease, but can pass that mutation to their pups, creating a hidden reservoir of disease in breed populations.

Over a period of time, DNA testing provides the means for breeders to eradicate the disease from their breed.

Dogs, like humans, suffer from a number of inherited diseases. These range from cataracts and other inherited eye diseases, to cancers and conditions affecting the nervous system, and are often specific to a particular breed.

The rapid development of resources for canine genetics by the international scientific community in the last five years has radically changed our research - we can now identify the mutations for simple genetic diseases much more quickly, and the identification of genes underlying more complex disorders has become a realistic proposition.

Test required	Breed	Price (inc VAT)	Sample
Canine DNA Profiling	All breeds	£31	2mls EDTA blood/Mouth Swabs
Canine Parentage Testing	All breeds	£21 per animal	2mls EDTA blood/Mouth Swabs
Centronuclear Myopathy	Labrador Retrievers	£65	2mls EDTA blood/Mouth Swabs
Ceroid Lipofuscinosis	Border Collies	£65	2mls EDTA blood
Canine Leukocyte Adhesion Deficiency (CLAD)	Irish Setters/ Red & White Setters	£65	2mls EDTA blood
Coat Length	Weimeraners/Border Collies/ Pembroke Welsh Corgis/ German Shepherds	£31	Mouth Swabs
Congenital Stationary Night Blindness	Briards	£54	Mouth Swabs
Copper Toxicosis	Bedlington Terriers	£54	Mouth Swabs
Fucosidosis	English Springer Spaniels	£54**	Mouth Swabs
Hereditary Cataracts	Australian Shepherd	£65	Mouth Swabs
Hereditary Cataracts	French Bulldog	£65	Mouth Swabs
Hereditary Cataracts	Staffordshire Bull Terrier	£65*	Mouth Swabs/3mls EDTA blood
Juvenile Hereditary Cataracts	Boston Terrier	£65	Mouth Swabs
L-2-hydroxyglutaric Aciduria	Staffordshire Bull Terrier	£65*	3mls EDTA blood/Mouth Swabs
Phosphofructokinase Deficiency	English Springer Spaniels	£65	2mls EDTA blood
Progressive Retinal Atrophy	English Springer Spaniels	£50**	Mouth Swabs
Progressive Retinal Atrophy (rdc1)	Irish Setters/ Red & White Setters	£65	2mls EDTA blood
Progressive Retinal Atrophy	Sloughis	£65	2mls EDTA blood
Progressive Retinal Atrophy	Miniature Long/Smooth Haired Dachshunds	£50	Mouth Swabs
Pyruvate Dehydrogenase Phosphate 1 Deficiency (PDP1)	Sussex Spaniels/ Clumber Spaniels	£65	Mouth Swabs
Spinocerebellar Ataxia	Spinone	£54	Mouth Swabs
Von Willibrand's Disease	Irish Red & White Setters	£65	2mls EDTA blood
Yellow Coat Gene	Labrador Retrievers/ Flat Coated Retrievers	£65	2mls EDTA blood