

What is meant by health screening/testing?

Testing your dog for certain genetic diseases greatly affects your chances of not reproducing those issues in future generations.

While there are no guarantees, the knowledge that your individual dogs are tested free of certain conditions gives you a tremendous advantage as a breeder and gives your puppy buyers a sense of your dedication to the welfare of not only your own breeding program, but to the breed as well.

The tests for issues that affect Bulldogs are easily attained, and for the most part, fairly inexpensive.

Why should I get my Bulldog tested?

Very simply, so you know if your dog is affected.

Suggested Health Screenings

Please refer to the matrix on the inside of this brochure for suggested Bulldog health screenings.

Can my own Veterinarian do the tests?

In some instances, yes. Tests for eye conditions and deafness are to be done by specialists. Cardiac tests can be done by a practitioner, but a specialist is ideal. HUU tests are done by DNA swab through the University of California, Davis.

What is BCA's position on health testing?

The Health Committee and BCA have no formal recommendation at this time on how breeders use formal tests to select breeding stock or make breeding decisions. However, in keeping with the spirit of the BCA being stewards of the Bulldog breed, members are encouraged to take advantage of advances in testing, genetics and medical science to always strive to produce the soundest animals possible with the goal of continuously improving the genetic health of the breed as a whole.

Definitions/Links

ACVO: American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists

(<http://www.acvo.org/>)

BAER: Brainstem Auditory Evoked Response

(<http://www.lsu.edu/deafness/baerexpl.htm>)

CERF: Canine Eye Registration Foundation

(<http://web.vmdb.org/home/>)

CHIC: Canine Health Information Center

(<http://www.caninehealthinfo.org/>)

ECR: Eye Certification Registry (OFA)

(<http://www.offa.org>)

HUU: Hyperuricosuria

(<http://www.vgl.ucdavis.edu/services/Hyperuricosuria.php>)

OFA: Orthopedic Foundation for Animals

(<http://www.offa.org>)

PennHIP: University of Pennsylvania Hip Improvement Program

(<http://www.pennhip.org/>)



Bulldog Club of America

Why Should I Health Screen My Bulldog?

Brought to you by the
BCA Health Committee



Bulldog Health Screening Matrix

Screening	Registry	Minimum Age	Who can administer	Where to test	Application Fee	Frequency	Test to be performed	Sedation/Anesthesia Required?	CHIC Requirement
Eyes	OFA (ECR) or CERF	No minimum	ACVO Diplomate	ACVO Diplomate office/Eye Clinic at Dog Show	\$12.00/ \$8.00 re-cert	Must be re-tested/ re-certified annually	Eye exam with dilation	No	
Hyperuricosuria (HUU)	OFA (using their Application for DNA Based Genetic Database)	No minimum	Owner (Request DNA test kit from http://www.vgl.ucdavis.edu/services/dog.php)	Home	\$50 DNA test submission to UC Davis \$15 DNA application to OFA	One time only	DNA Buccal swab	No	
Congenital Deafness	OFA	35 Days	Veterinarian/Audiologist/ Canine Neurologist	Veterinary/Audiologist/ Neurologist Clinic/BAER Clinic at Dog Show	\$15.00	One time only	BAER hearing test	No	
Spine	OFA (Data only)	5 Months	Veterinarian	Veterinary Clinic	\$20.00	One time only	Radiograph	No, although preferred by some vets	
Congenital Cardiac	OFA	12 Months	Veterinarian/Cardiologist	Veterinary Clinic/Cardiac Clinic at Dog Show	\$15.00	One time only	Auscultation, although Echocardiogram may be done if desired for more information	No	X
Patellar Luxation	OFA	12 Months	Veterinarian	Veterinary Clinic/Patella Clinic at Dog Show	\$15.00	One time only	Physical manipulation of the knees	No	X
Thyroid	OFA	12 Months	Veterinarian	Veterinary Clinic/Thyroid Clinic at Dog Show	\$15.00	One time only	Blood panel	No	
Tracheal Hypoplasia	OFA	12 Months	Veterinarian	Veterinary Clinic	\$25.00	One time only	Radiograph	No	X
Elbow Dysplasia	OFA	24 Months	Veterinarian	Veterinary Clinic	\$35 alone/ \$40 Hip & Elbows together	One time only	Radiograph	No, although preferred by some vets	
Hip Dysplasia	OFA	24 Months	Veterinarian	Veterinary Clinic	\$35 alone/ \$40 Hip & Elbows together	One time only	Radiograph	No, although preferred by some vets	
	PennHIP	16 Weeks	PennHIP Certified Veterinarian	PennHIP Certified Veterinary Clinic	Request amount from PennHIP Vet	One time only	Radiograph	Yes	

Consult with your veterinarian for more information and watch for upcoming health clinics at dog shows.

Permanent Identification (microchip or tattoo) required for certification.

Download and print OFA applications from the OFA website and bring them to your vet appointment.

Bulldogs that complete the OFA Cardiac, OFA Patellar Luxation, and OFA Tracheal Hypoplasia exams will automatically become certified with CHIC if the box is checked on the application to share data.