

## **Hip Dysplasia**

Hip dysplasia is a condition which particularly affects large and giantbreeds of dogs where the puppies are born with shallow hip sockets. This allows excessive movement within the hip joint which in turn leads to painful arthritis in early to middle age. As it is inherited, breeding from dogs with good hips helps to reduce the chance and severity of the condition in the offspring. Dogs (both male and female) which may be used for breeding should be hip scored by submitting an x-ray to the Hip Dysplasia Panel. A certificate is then issued where the better the hips, the lower the score (range 0–106).

### **Procedure**

To be hip scored your dog must be at least one year old and have either a microchip or a tattoo. We also need the animal's Kennel Club Certificate. Your pet will usually be booked in to the practice around half past eight in the morning to be sedated for the x-ray to be taken. Most dogs go home early the same afternoon. We usually receive the results three to four weeks later.



A list of affected breeds and the mean scores for each breed can be seen at:  
[www.bva.co.uk/canine\\_health\\_schemes/hip\\_scheme.aspx](http://www.bva.co.uk/canine_health_schemes/hip_scheme.aspx)

If you are planning to breed from a dog of an affected breed it is advisable to hip score your bitch and select a suitable dog with a good hip score. If you are buying a puppy of an affected breed, remember to ask about the hip scores of both parents.

## **Elbow Dysplasia Scheme**

This is similar to the hip scheme but is designed to tackle elbow dysplasia. The procedure is the same as for hips above and can be done at the same time. For more information see:

<https://www.bva.co.uk/Canine-Health-Schemes/Elbow-scheme/>

## **Eye Scheme**

This covers eleven hereditary in fifty breeds of dogs including collie eye anomaly, glaucoma, hereditary cataracts and congenital retinal atrophy which can all lead to blindness. A veterinary specialist, who is on the panel, examines breeding dogs and can issue a certificate for dogs that pass.

Unlike the hip scheme, breeding dogs (male and female) may need to be examined annually. For more information see:

[www.bva.co.uk/canine\\_health\\_schemes/eye\\_scheme.aspx](http://www.bva.co.uk/canine_health_schemes/eye_scheme.aspx)