

## 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 many 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 and Cystinuria tests may be done by the owner using a DNA buccal swab.

## 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>)

BCA: Bulldog Club of America  
(<http://www.bulldogclubofamerica.org/>)

CHIC: Canine Health Information Center  
(<http://www.caninehealthinfo.org/>)

ECR (Replaces CERF): Eye Certification Registry (<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://info.antechimagingsservices.com/pennhip/>)




## Bulldog Club of America

# Why Should I Health Screen My Bulldog?

Brought to you by the  
BCA Health Committee



## Bulldog Health Screening Matrix

Screening	Minimum Age	CHIC Requirement	BCA Ambassador for Health	BCA Pioneer for Health	Registry	Who can administer	Where to test	Application Fee	Frequency	Test to be performed	Sedation/Anesthesia Required?
 Congenital Cardiac	12 Months	X	x		OFA	Veterinarian/Cardiologist	Veterinary Clinic/Cardiac Clinic at Dog Show	\$15.00	One time only	Auscultation by veterinarian. Echocardiogram is preferred	No
Patellar Luxation	12 Months	X	x		OFA	Veterinarian	Veterinary Clinic/Patella Clinic at Dog Show	\$15.00	One time only	Manual manipulation of the knees	No
Tracheal Hypoplasia	12 Months	X	x		OFA	Veterinarian	Veterinary Clinic	\$25.00	One time only	Radiograph	No Dog MUST be awake
Thyroid	12 Months		x		OFA	Veterinarian	Veterinary Clinic/Thyroid Clinic at Dog Show	\$15.00	One time only	Blood panel	No
Elbow Dysplasia	24 Months		x		OFA	Veterinarian	Veterinary Clinic	\$35 alone/ \$40 Hip & Elbows together	One time only	Radiograph	No, although preferred by some vets
Hip Dysplasia	OFA 24 Months		x		OFA	Veterinarian	Veterinary Clinic	\$35 alone/ \$40 Hip & Elbows together	One time only	Radiograph	No, although preferred by some vets
	PennHIP 16 Weeks				PennHIP	PennHIP Certified Veterinarian	PennHIP Certified Veterinarian	Request amount from PennHIP Vet	One time only	Radiograph	Yes
Canine Cystinuria Type 3	No minimum		x	*	OFA (using their Application for DNA Based Genetic Database)	Owner (Request DNA test kit from <a href="http://research.vet.upenn.edu/penngen">http://research.vet.upenn.edu/penngen</a> or <a href="https://www.vetgen.com/">https://www.vetgen.com/</a> )	Home	\$70 DNA test submission to PennGen or \$65 DNA test submission to VetGen  \$15 DNA application to OFA	One time only	DNA Buccal swab	No
Eyes	No minimum			*	OFA (ECR)	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)	No minimum		x	*	OFA (using their Application for DNA Based Genetic Database)	Owner	Home	Request amount from DNA Lab  \$15 DNA application to OFA	One time only	DNA Buccal swab	No
Congenital Deafness	35 Days			*	OFA	Veterinarian/Audiologist/ Canine Neurologist	Veterinary/Audiologist /Neurologist Clinic/BAER Clinic at Dog Show	\$15.00	One time only	BAER hearing test	No
Spine	5 Months			*	OFA (Data only)	Veterinarian	Veterinary Clinic	\$20.00	One time only	Radiograph	No, although preferred by some vets

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 (<http://www.offa.org>) and bring them to your vet appointment.

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

Bulldog Club of America Ambassador and Pioneer for Health Award information may be found here: <http://www.bulldogclubofamerica.org/bca?id=364>