



March 30, 2019

Recommended health testing for Curly-Coated Retrievers:

Curlies used in breeding programs should be free of hip dysplasia, congenital heart disease and inherited eye diseases.

In addition, there are three autosomal recessive disease in Curlies for which there are DNA tests (GSD IIIa, EIC and cord-1 PRA). Individual dogs can be tested to determine if they are clear, carriers or affected by each of these conditions or they can be determined to be clear of these diseases if both of their parents or all of their grandparents were tested and shown to be free of the mutations.

Elbow dysplasia is uncommon in Curlies and testing is currently optional.

Recommended health testing:

- Hip dysplasia: OFA or PennHIP evaluation and inclusion in the OFA +/- PennHIP database
- Cardiac disease: evaluation by a board-certified cardiologist and inclusion in the OFA Advanced Cardiac Database or Congenital Cardiac Database
- Eye examination: by a board-certified ophthalmologist and results included in the OFA Companion Animal Eye Registry

At least one parent should be free of the following diseases to prevent affected offspring:

- Glycogen Storage Disease IIIa (GSDIIIa)
- Cone-Rod Dystrophy 1 - Progressive Retinal Atrophy (cord1 - PRA)

The mutation for exercise induced collapse occurs commonly in curly-coated retrievers but very few genetically affected Curlies ever show symptoms. Restricting the use of EIC carriers or affected individuals would have a detrimental impact on the available gene pool of Curlies. For these reasons, testing for EIC is recommended and breeders should make an effort to reduce the incidence in the breed but the disease is considered a low risk and low priority for curly breeders.

Optional health testing:

- Elbow dysplasia - OFA evaluation and inclusion in the OFA database

Unfortunately, there are significant diseases in Curlies including epilepsy, craniomandibular osteopathy (CMO) and immune mediated diseases for which we have no tests. Prospective puppy buyers should inquire into the general health of the sire and dam as well as their relatives and previous offspring and ask about these specific disease conditions.

This statement was approved by the Curly-Coated Retriever Club of America (CCRCA) Board of Directors on Nov. 29, 2018.

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