

Getting a CHIC NUMBER

As easy as.....

1. Have your dog micro chipped
2. Make an appointment with an appropriate Vet
 - An Ophthalmologist for the CERF Exam
 - A vet with experience positioning dogs for the Hip Dysplasia and Legg Perthes x-ray
 - A General Practitioner for Patella, Bile Acid and Thyroid
3. Download the forms.
 - You can fill them out before printing
 - The CERF form will be provided
4. Mail the forms, that have been completed by you the dog owner, and the Vet to CERF or OFA along with the required fee.
5. YOUR DOG WILL RECEIVE HIS CHIC NUMBER within four to six weeks and have his own page on the CHIC Breed Web Site!

CHIC

The Canine Health Information Center

www.caninehealthinfo.org

- YTCA and the YTCA Health Committee have established the list of screening tests that the owner must complete. Test results, both normal and affected must be released to both the OFA and CERF databases.
- The CHIC number itself does not imply normal test results, only that all the required tests were performed and results released.
- The CHIC website provides a search engine to locate dogs that have been issued a CHIC number. <http://www.caninehealthinfo.org/brdreqs.html?breed=YT>
- Test results from the OFA and CERF databases are shared automatically with the CHIC program. There is no fee to enter test results from either the OFA or CERF. Once all the tests have been completed the CHIC number will be issued, usually within 4-6 weeks.

SO LET ' S GET STARTED

ALL DOGS MUST BE MICRO CHIPPED FOR POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION

REQUIRED TESTS

1. CERF EYE EXAMINATION - prior to the onset of breeding, 2, 5 and 7 years.
2. OFA Patellar Luxation - minimum of 12 months.

OPTIONAL TESTS Suggested but not Required

1. BILE ACID
2. OFA HIP DYSPLASIA - Minimum of 12 months
3. OFA LEGG-CALVE-PERTHES DISEASE - Minimum of 12 months
4. THYROID - MSU Lab recommended - prior to the onset of breeding, 2, 5 and 7 years.
5. CORNELL DNA Bank (blood)

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CERF EYE EXAMINATION

CERF - Canine Eye Registration Foundation - www.vmdb.org/cerf.html

- This examination must be performed by a Board Certified Ophthalmologist. A list of Ophthalmologists in each state can be found at www.vmdb.org/clinic.html
- The eye examination is painless and will require that the dogs eyes be dilated.
- After the exam is complete the Dr. will fill out the form which he provides.

FOR THE CERF DATA BASE

<http://www.vmdb.org/verify.html>

If the dog is certified to be free of heritable eye disease, you can then send the completed owner's copy of the CERF form with the fee of \$12.00 for the original CERF Registration or \$8.00 if it is a recertification or kennel rate). Only dogs that are free of eye disease will be listed on the CERF Data Base and listed only for one year. Recertification is needed annually.

FOR YOUR CHIC NUMBER

The OFA (CHIC) will only accept Normal CERF results directly from CERF. Only owner submissions will be accepted for Abnormal CERF results that the owner wishes to display on the CHIC website. The addition of this information is designed to provide a maximum amount of health screening information in a single location. The owner must mail the abnormal CERF results directly to:

Canine Health Information Center
2300 E. Nifong Blvd.
Columbia, MO 65201

CHIC does NOT display the outcome of the eye exam on the dog's CHIC page. Only the date of the first exam and the dates of the rechecks.

A dog with eye disease IS eligible for a CHIC Number.

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PATELLAR LUXATION – MINIMUM OF 12 MONTHS

<http://www.offa.org/patluxinfo.html>

- This examination may be performed by a general practitioner. The dog is examined awake.
- After the dog is examined the vet completes the application form indicating the results of the dog's patella evaluation.
- The form may be downloaded at <http://www.offa.org/plappbw.pdf> and filled out online before you print it.

FOR THE OFA DATABASE

If the dog is 12 months or older the application and fee can be mailed to OFA, 2300 Nifong Blvd., Columbia, MO 65201.

There is NO OFA fee for entering an abnormal evaluation of the patella in the data bank.

A breed database number will be issued to all dogs found to be normal at 12 months of age or older. The breed database number will contain the age at evaluation and it's recommended that dogs be reexamined periodically as some luxations will not be evident until later in life.

FOR YOUR CHIC NUMBER

The Application for Patellar Luxation Database will automatically be shared with CHIC.

IF THE EXAMINATION RESULTS ARE ABNORMAL, meaning if there is slippage of the patella, YOU MUST INITIAL THE AUTHORIZATION TO RELEASE ABNORMAL RESULTS found on the OFA Form and send the form to OFA at the above address.

CHIC will issue a number to a dog with Patellar Luxation.

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HIP DYSPLASIA (MINIMUM OF 12 MONTHS)

<http://www.offa.org/hipinfo.html>

Please note - A dog cannot receive an OFA Number for Hip Dysplasia until it is 24 months of age. **A Hip x-ray at 12 months is classified as a PRELIMINARY X-RAY and will qualify the dog for a CHIC Number.**

***IMPORTANT - AT 12 MONTHS THE DOG IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE OFA LEGGS-PERTHES NUMBER. That is why the option is given to do the hip x-ray at this age. BOTH EVALUATIONS ARE MADE FROM THE SAME X-RAY.**

The POSITIVE ID NUMBER must show up in the film emulsion.

A General Practitioner can do the x-ray for Hip Dysplasia. However, proper positioning of the dog is crucial so a vet should be selected that has experience with this type of x-ray.

- Many vets can do this x-ray without chemical restraint. Discuss this with your vet before making the appointment. General anesthesia is not recommended. Mild sedation may be helpful.
- X-raying pregnant or estrus females should be avoided due to possible increased joint laxity (subluxation) from hormonal variations. OFA recommends x-rays be taken one month after weaning pups or one month before or after a heat cycle.
- Evaluation should be made when the dog is in good physical condition.
- If the x-ray is a preliminary (12 months up to 24 months) it is evaluated by one radiologist. If the dog is 24 months and older the x-ray is independently evaluated by three randomly selected, board certified veterinary radiologists.
- The form may be downloaded at **<http://www.offa.org/hdappbw.pdf>** and filled out online before you print it.

- The x-ray, application and fee should be enclosed in the mailing envelope. These may be paper clipped together BUT NOT STAPLED TO THE X-RAY. Light cardboard may be included to stiffen the envelope. Avoid using boxes, tubes, padded envelopes and bending or folding x-ray.
- For an explanation as to how the hips are evaluated go to <http://www.offa.org/hipproc.html>

DOGS SHOWING EVIDENCE OF HD WILL BE ISSUED A CHIC NUMBER ONLY IF THE OWNER INITIALS THE BOX ON THE APPLICATION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF ABNORMAL OR AFFECTED RESULTS.

IF the owner chooses not to disclose the OFA grade the dog will not be eligible for a CHIC number.

THIS X-RAY MAY BE USED FOR THE LEGGS-CALVE-PERTHES SCREENING ALSO SO SUBMITT BOTH APPLICATIONS AT THE SAME TIME. Download LCP application at <http://www.offa.org/lcpappbw.pdf>

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LEGG-CALVE-PERTHES (MINIMUM OF 12 MONTHS)

<http://www.offa.org/leggperthinfo.html>

The dog must be a minimum of 12 months of age on the date of the x-ray to be eligible for a LCP number.

- **THE SAME X-RAY IS USED FOR LCP and Hip Dysplasia.**
- **The x-rays may be taken by any vet but must contain the permanent ID number in the film emulsion.**
- The x-ray, application and fee should be enclosed in the mailing envelope. These may be paper clipped together BUT NOT STAPLED TO THE X-RAY. Light cardboard may be included to stiffen the envelope. Avoid using boxes, tubes, padded envelopes and bending or folding x-ray.
- A Board Certified Radiologist reviews the x-rays for evidence of LCP.
- Dogs with evidence of LCP are not assigned an OFA number.
- A dog with LCP Disease will be issued a CHIC Number **IF the owner initials the box on the application form that releases abnormal test results.**

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OFA Thyroid

<http://www.offa.org/thyinfo.html>

Recommend testing at ages 1, 3, and 6 Years of Age.

Dogs should not receive any type of thyroid supplementation for 3 months prior to thyroid testing

Each dog is to be examined by a veterinarian and have a serum sample sent to an OFA approved lab for testing according to the application and general information instructions.

A breed database number will be issued to all dogs found to be normal at 12 months of age.

Thyroid abnormalities fall into several categories- two types will be defined by the registry

- Autoimmune Thyroiditis
- Idiopathically Reduced Thyroid Function

Autoimmune thyroiditis is known to be heritable.

The Thyroid Lab that the YTCA Health Committee is recommending:
Diagnostic Center for Population & Animal Health
4125 Beaumont Road, Room 122
Lansing, MI 48910-0621
517-353-0621

The laboratory must be contacted for the appropriate submission forms, sample handling procedures and laboratory service fee before collecting the sample.