



Canine Genetics Progress Report

Breed: Dachshund

Condition: Progressive Retinal Atrophy (PRA)

Date: 01.07.2007

Recent / Current Funding:

There is no current funding for this project

Progress Update

We have recently determined that the same cord1 mutation that is responsible for PRA in the miniature longhaired dachshund is also present in the miniature smooth haired dachshund population. Many miniature smooth haired dachshund owners and breeders kindly donated samples from their dogs and we were recently able to officially extend the DNA test offered by the AHT to include this breed also.

In collaboration with David Sargan at Cambridge University, scientists and ophthalmologists at the AHT continue to investigate the variation in age of onset that is apparent in dogs that are homozygous for the cord1 mutation. We have contacted all MLHD owners from the UK whose dogs have tested affected for the cord1 mutation, asking them to update us on the clinical status of their dogs and offering them free eye examinations, either at the AHT or nearer their homes. We encourage those owners

who have yet to return their questionnaires to please do so; the information we gather will help us considerably to understand the wide variation in age of onset we are observing.

In addition, to enable us monitor the possibility that additional forms of PRA might be present in the dachshund population we are offering a free DNA test to any dachshund (of any variety) that has been diagnosed as PRA affected by a veterinary ophthalmologist, providing a copy of the eye examination certificate is included with the test application form.

Thank You

As always, the AHT would like to thank the very many dachshund owners and breeders who have offered us samples and information about their dogs. Without this kind of co-operation we could not have been able to make the progress we have with PRA in this breed; with your continued co-operation we will continue to make progress.

We would also like to thank everybody who has made a financial donation to support our research studies. As a charity the AHT relies heavily on donations and they are all truly appreciated, no matter how small.