



DCM of Irish Wolfhound

The dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM) is a genetic disease that affects various breeds as Doberman, Boxer, Newfoundland, Great Dane and Irish Wolfhound. DCM in dogs is characterized by ventricular dilatation and systolic contractile dysfunction, and is an important cause of heart failure.

To better understand, this disease at genetic level, a research program is underway. Since January 2008, a European research program (LUPA, www.eurolupa.org) is ongoing and aims at studying the molecular basis of several inherited canine diseases. The research on Irish Wolfhound DCM is led by a French team (Antagene) and a German team (Veterinary University of Hannover and the practising veterinarian Dr. Vollmar).

Currently, 122 dogs have been collected in France (of which 16% are affected by DCM) and more than 500 in Germany, Netherland and Belgium (of which 17% are affected by DCM).

Thanks to pedigrees and information regarding others older affected dogs, a pedigree is under construction so as to confirm the transmission way of this disease and to find the different links between the affected dogs.

We still need samples, especially from **old dogs without DCM or atrial fibrillation** (>7 years old) to ensure our healthy controls. We also look for samples from affected dogs and their relatives (siblings, parents, descendants).

For each dog, thank to provide us:

- Blood samples (3-5 ml on EDTA tube)
- A copy of pedigree
- A sampling certificate (download on www.antagene.com)
- A copy of clinical examination (ECG, echocardiography)

No financial contribution is required and the researches are led in respect of confidentiality regarding clinical information, animal and owner identity.

The blood sample may be done by a veterinary during your next visit and must be send quickly with the other requested documents at one of the following addresses:

ANTAGENE - 2 allée des Sequoias – 69 578 Limonest Cedex – France

or

Department for Animal Breeding, Bünteweg 17p, 30559 Hannover, Germany

We thank very sincerely all breeders, owners and kennel clubs that contributed to the sample collect and their implication to transmit us the information.

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