



Genindexe

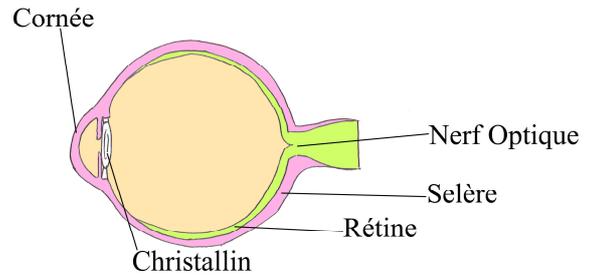
La génétique à votre service



Hereditary cataract HSF4

Description

In the eye of the dog is the lens, a flexible lens which can change shape to focus exactly the light on the retina. This allows the dog to accommodate his vision to distinguish sharply objects close as remote objects. Besides, to allow a correct passage of the light through the lens, this one must be perfectly transparent. But during the life of the dog, the lens thickens and undergoes an ageing which makes it gradually opaque. The pupil of the dog, normally very black, present then bluish reflections and becomes then more and more white. **According to this process, the view of the dog decreases and he becomes gradually blind.** If this phenomenon is normal, there are abnormal situations during which the lens makes opaque, whatever the age of the dog.



Causes

The most common cause of cataract to the dog is an ageing of the lens when he ages. His evolution is slow, over several months even years and it appears generally towards the age from 7 to 9 years. On the contrary, the cataract HSF4 can appear at very young dogs from 6 months to 1 year. **This cataract is then hereditary and certain races are predisposed to it as the Australian Shepherds.** This genetic disease is due to a deletion of 1 base in the gene HSF4.

Screening

The screening of the HSF4 does not allow to say if the animal will develop the cataract but simply allows to estimate if the dog possesses a predisposition to develop the cataract. A dog can develop the disease while it was not predisposed to it and vice versa. To realize the DNA screening of this disease, a simple oral smear or a blood test allows us to make the analysis. On simple request of your part, we send you a free of charge kit of taking. In reception of your sample in the laboratory, only 10 working days are enough so that you have your results by e-mail. Then a report is sent to you quickly by mail and/or by email.

For more information, do not hesitate to contact us!

