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## **Tests for diseases**

### *Recommendations of the National Breed Club of the Yakutian Laika (NBC YL)*

The Yakutian Laika breed is indigenous and is characterized by good health, however, the NBC Yakutian Laika has approved the prevention of dog morbidity as one of its priorities.

NBC YL recommends the following instrumental tests for establishing hereditary diseases in dogs:

#### **Vision**

1.1. Retinal Atrophy Progression XL PRA1. The first symptoms of the disease appear in the dog no earlier than 3-5 years of age. Diagnosis is by systematic fundus examination and electroretinography (ERG). Based on the established diagnosis, it is possible to conduct a genetic test of bitches in order to identify the carriage of a mutated gene. The female carrier should be removed from the breeding.

1.2. If there is a doctor's testimony that indicates the presence of symptoms of other types of PRA (see Article -"Vision" chapter), it is also possible to conduct appropriate tests.

No diseases associated with visual impairment have been reported in the breed.

#### **Hearing**

1.1. It is necessary to check born puppies, especially white and white-headed ones, by simple means (reaction to noise, etc.). If you suspect - do a BAER test. At present, NBC YL is investigating the issue of the mandatory BAER test, statistics are being collected, after which a decision will be made whether there is reason for concern or not. In case of negative results of the BAER test (lack of response of brain structures to a sound stimulus) breeder should remove deaf dogs from breeding.

1.2. It should be borne in mind that genetic tests for testing deafness including associated with the extreme spotting gene sw do not currently exist.

1.3. If possible, the nature of deafness (acquired or congenital (acquired or hereditary)) should be established. Sometimes the nature of deafness is not related to heredity.

#### **Joint Dysplasia HD and ED**

NBC YL recommends an X-ray examination of the hip and shoulder joints of dogs at least 12 months old. Dogs with a dysplasia degree of HD-D and HD-E and ED-3 should not be allowed for breeding.

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## **Other diseases**

Other diseases (see Article) are found in related breeds, therefore it is necessary in each individual case of the manifestation of symptoms similar to the symptoms of these diseases, undergo a medical examination and follow the doctor's recommendations.

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NBC YL together with the ZOOGEN laboratory performs FREE testing of DISEASED dogs with visual and hearing impairment that have a clinical diagnosis. Retinal atrophy can be determined genetically, but genetic testing for deafness is not possible because the sw gene has not yet been identified. However, it is necessary to collect biomaterial for future use. Genetics moves forward on all sails. The biological material of the dogs should be sent here: <http://zoogen.org/eng/index.php> (select language). For healthy dogs, it is necessary to pass a test for gene A, gene K, a gene for hair length. In the application, indicate as the «Customer : National Breed Club of the Yakutian Laika» to receive a discount on payment. For sick dogs, it is necessary to pass the appropriate to the disease test, without payment.

NBC YL collects statistical material on diseases. Please forward your results (scans of documents) or simply the breeder's information about the presence of problem dogs to [yras@sakha.ru](mailto:yras@sakha.ru) Information is confidential. For foreign breeders - please select the person in charge of the country for the collection of information.

These actions are necessary to compile a register of diseases in the Yakutian Laika breed, the hereditary nature of which is confirmed by the genealogical or genetic method.

*And see full text in Article «Tests for diseases and achievements of genetics» by Elena Ramenska.*

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