



Australian Shepherd Health & Genetics Institute, Inc.

Surveys

Without data we cannot know which diseases are most frequent in our breed, information necessary not only to guide breeding decisions but to help focus our support toward the most appropriate canine health research.

We have conducted two major surveys so far. In 2007 we completed a breed cancer survey that identified the most frequent cancers in the breed and also made clear that risk for these cancers, hemangiosarcoma and lymphoma, is inherited in Australian Shepherds. On the strength of this data we were able to attract the interest of major canine cancer researchers who are now collecting samples and conducting research on these two cancers in our breed.

In 2010 we completed our first comprehensive breed health survey, the first of its kind in Australian Shepherds. This wide-ranging and detailed survey provided information on which diseases were most prevalent, guiding our educational efforts and research support.

We have recently completed two brief surveys, one focusing on cataracts (done in partnership with the Animal Health Trust) and the other on longevity. Both are currently in the data analysis phase and reports will be issued once that process is complete.

See our website for full reports on these and other important breed health surveys.

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