

DEPOHGEN®

Bleeding Disorder Testing for Dogs

What is Delayed Postoperative Hemorrhage (DEPOH)?

Delayed postoperative hemorrhage (DEPOH) is a potentially deadly disorder that causes excessive bleeding and bruising in the hours and days following surgical procedures. It typically occurs one to four days after major surgery when blood clots begin to break down too soon in a process called hyperfibrinolysis. Severity can range from minor bruising to life-threatening hemorrhaging. Research conducted at Washington State University by Dr Michael Court discovered a genetic mutation that is strongly associated with DEPOH in dogs. This gene encodes alpha-2 antiplasmin, which plays a key role in preventing excessive breakdown of blood clots.



Should I test my dog?

The DEPOH mutation is common in Scottish deerhounds, greyhounds, and Irish wolfhounds; and has been discovered in other sighthound dog breeds like basenjis, Italian greyhounds, whippets, salukis, and borzois. The DEPOHGEN® test, offered by

Washington State University, is the first and only test capable of detecting this genetic mutation and determining whether your dog has an increased risk for dangerous bleeding after common surgical procedures, such as spays, castrations, and tooth extractions. If your veterinarian is aware that your dog is positive for the DEPOHGEN® test they can prescribe a medication to give to your dog before surgery to prevent excessive bleeding during and after surgery.

How do I get a test kit?

You can order a cheek swab test kit, or your veterinarian can submit a blood sample. Simply follow the directions on our website: LABS.WSU.EDU/COURT-LAB. The cost for testing is \$70 per dog.

Why choose WSU?

The DEPOHGEN® test was developed at WSU in collaboration with the Scottish Deerhound Club of America (SDCA) and is now a recommended genetic test by the American Kennel Club (AKC) for Scottish deerhound breeders and owners. Collaborative studies between WSU and other breed clubs are ongoing to better understand the exact risk for DEPOH in other sighthound and non-sighthound dog breeds. Pet owners, breeders, and veterinarians with questions regarding the DEPOHGEN® test, including interpretation of results, can send an email to:

cvm.depohgen@wsu.edu