

**British Veterinary Orthopaedic Association (BVOA)**

**Canine Hip Registry**

Dear pet owner

You are being invited to participate in a research study. Before you decide whether to participate, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and feel free to ask us if you would like more information or if there is anything that you do not understand. Please also feel free to discuss this with your friends, relatives and vet if you wish. We would like to stress that you do not have to accept this invitation and should only agree to take part if you want to. Thank you for reading this.

**What is the purpose of the BVOA Canine Hip Registry?**

Hip replacement is now a relatively common procedure in dogs and the results are usually very good. As with all advanced surgical procedures, there can be complications and our aim is to reduce the incidence of these complications as much as we can. To do this, it is important to follow-up on the progress of dogs who have received this treatment. In this way we can look at factors that may have an influence on the success of the procedure. This is an approach that has been very successful in human hip replacement. But to do this we need hundreds, if not thousands, of dogs in our database. The only way to collect such numbers is to have a wide-scale, coordinated data collection programme and this is the basis of the Canine Hip Registry (CHR).

The internet facilitates our data collection and this is uploaded through a *secure, password-protected* website by your veterinary orthopaedic specialist at Anderson Moores. The website is held at the coordinating institution, the University of Liverpool, UK. Data submitted to the CHR will include your name, your address, your telephone number and your e.mail address along with your pet's name, breed and age. Your surgeon will also submit details of the operation such as what size and type of hip implant was used. We need your contact details so that once a year, we can contact you and ask you to complete an online questionnaire regarding your dog's performance with their new hip.

**Why have I been chosen to take part?**

We are aiming to collect data on as many dogs as possible. Through the BVOA, we are inviting all veterinary orthopaedic specialists who perform total hip replacement, to recruit dogs to the CHR.

(continued...)

**Do I have to take part?**

No. Participation is voluntary and participants are free to withdraw at anytime without explanation and without incurring a disadvantage.

**What will happen if I take part?**

After your dog has their hip replacement, your surgeon will upload data to our secure website. Once a year, we would e.mail you with a link to a web-based survey. The survey asks you to complete a questionnaire regarding your pet's activity and function on the new hip; it should take 5-10 minutes to complete. At the current time, it is envisaged that this project will last 10-15 years so that we can assess the performance of hip replacement throughout a dog's whole life.

**Are there any risks in taking part?**

No. This project is merely a data collection project. The treatment of your dog will not be affected in any way by involvement in this project.

**Are there any benefits to taking part?**

Not directly. However, you will hopefully be helping us to improve the success rate of total hip replacement in dogs and helping owners of the future make better informed decisions. The data will also help veterinary orthopaedic specialists make the best decisions for their future patients.

**What if I am unhappy or if there is a problem?**

If you are unhappy, or if there is a problem, please feel free to let us know by contacting Professor John Innes on (tel. +44 15 795 6100; e.mail j.f.innes@liv.ac.uk) and we will try to help. If you remain unhappy or have a complaint which you feel you cannot come to us with then you should contact the Research Governance Officer at University of Liverpool on +44 (0)151 794 8290 (ethics@liv.ac.uk). When contacting the Research Governance Officer, please provide details of the name or description of the study (so that it can be identified), the researcher(s) involved, and the details of the complaint you wish to make.

**Will my participation be kept confidential?**

Yes. All data will be held securely at University of Liverpool and will not be passed on to third parties. Professor Innes at University of Liverpool and his research colleagues within BVOA will be the only persons granted access to the whole data set. Your own surgeon will be able to access data on their own patients only.

**What will happen to the results of the study?**

The results of this study will be published as an annual report to the BVOA and will be available on the BVOA website ([www.bsava.com/bvoa](http://www.bsava.com/bvoa)). In addition, when there are sufficient data to draw conclusions, we will submit the results for peer-reviewed publication in the veterinary scientific literature so that veterinary surgeons around the world have access to the conclusions. No personal information will appear in any reports or papers.

**What will happen if I want to stop taking part?**

You can withdraw at anytime, without explanation. Results up to the period of withdrawal may be used, if you are happy for this to be done. Otherwise you may request that they are destroyed and no further use is made of them.

**Who can I contact if I have further questions?**

If you have further questions, please contact the lead Researcher:

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**If you are happy to continue,  
please now read and complete two copies of the consent form.**