

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY RESEARCH FORM

Request Cheek Swabs

If you would like contribute DNA samples for our research, you can contact us by e-mail at k9genome@msu.edu or by phone at (517) 432-0144.

Please include the following with email:

Name of Dog: _____

Breed: _____ Age: _____ Sex: _____

Which study do you want to contribute to? _____

A description of your dog's condition: _____

Any other conditions we should be aware of: _____

Who diagnosed it and where/when?

Ophthalmologist / Veterinarian: _____

Hospital Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Date of Diagnosis: _____

Your Contact Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

What is the best way to contact you? _____

How many dogs do you need swabs for? _____

Instructions for Obtaining Cheek Swabs from Dogs

We advise using two people to collect the DNA sample, one to gently restrain and hold the head, the second to collect the sample. Many dogs enjoy chew toys made of similar materials and wish to add the brush to their collection. To avoid contamination from dog food, please collect the sample at least 2 hours after the last meal or snack. Dogs may have access to water at any time.

1. Wash hands before sample collection **and between dogs** if more than one DNA sample is being collected
2. Peel open the brush package at the arrow
3. Remove the brush, being careful not to touch the bristles
4. Place the brush between the lip and gums of the dog being tested
5. Gently brush the inside surface of the cheek for about 15 seconds
6. Place the brush back in the original package
7. Repeat steps 2-6 with the other brushes
8. Fill out labels for each dog sampled. Place the label firmly on the paper side of the brush holder as shown below and press down to secure it. (Labels placed on the plastic side come off very easily). You don't have to seal the brush holders.

Please collect four (4) brushes from each dog and return by REGULAR MAIL. The samples are stable for several weeks without refrigeration and do not need to be returned by express mail.

Other items to include with your samples if available:

- Photographs of the affected dog and the disorder.
- Any Veterinarian reports
- Pedigree
- DNA Sire and Dam swabs
- DNA Swabs of littermates