



Information for Veterinarians

Dogs Victoria are introducing a mandatory DNA parentage verification requirement as part of the litter registration process for all purebred litters whelped from 1 January 2026.

The goal of introducing DNA parentage verification is to promote increased confidence in pedigree, purebred dogs, and to support the reduction and elimination of breed-specific health conditions in our registered breeds.

What will this mean for breeders?

Breeders will be required to submit a 'Certificate of Parentage Verification' from a registered DNA laboratory for each puppy in the litter to meet the registration requirements.

This will mean that **all** of the puppies in the litter will need to have a DNA sample collected for the purposes of DNA profiling and parentage verification **prior** to the litter being able to be registered and pedigree papers issued.

Sample Collection Protocol

In line with the Dogs Australia DNA sample collection requirements, DNA samples are only valid if collected by an **approved** and **independent** Collector.

**** All Veterinarians are 'approved' collectors ****

There are also trained laypeople (non-vets) who are approved by the various DNA laboratories and Dogs Victoria to collect DNA samples via buccal swabs.

Regardless of whether the collector is a Veterinarian or an approved lay person, they must be INDEPENDENT

- » **no proprietary interest in the animal being collected**
- » **no direct relationship to the owner(s) of the dog**

The animal must also be **positively identified** at the time of collection – meaning that the microchip must be scanned and the chip number confirmed and recorded on the sample submission paperwork.

DNA Sample Kits

If you are asked to collect DNA samples, the breeder/member should provide a kit that they have ordered online.

DNA Sampling Kits usually contain instructions for sampling, swabs and paperwork that must be completed and signed at the time of collection.

Kits from different laboratories may vary, so make sure that you read the included information to ensure a valid result.

Please note that Dogs Victoria members are free to use any registered DNA laboratory they like

We have member-preferred pricing arrangements with both **InfogeneNZ** and **Orivet** so it is anticipated that these providers will form the bulk of sample testing that occurs.

Requests for Microchipping

Members may request that puppies be microchipped earlier than the standard 6-8 week-old vaccination visit to facilitate DNA sample collection for both parentage and disease status testing.

This allows for DNA samples to be collected, processed and results returned to the breeder prior to the time of sale and facilitates disclosure requirements outlined in the Victorian Government Code of Practice, and Dogs Victoria Regulations.

If you have any questions in relation to this new requirement, please do not hesitate to email dnadogsvictoria@dogsvictoria.org.au or call our Member Services Team on (03) 9788 2500