



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.

Orivet sampling instructions

<https://www.orivet.com/how-to-take-dna-sample>

InfogeneNZ sampling

[instructions https://infogenenz.co.nz/pages/how-to-collect-samples](https://infogenenz.co.nz/pages/how-to-collect-samples)

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.

Tips for obtaining good quality swab samples

1. Ensure puppies are not fed/do not suckle for at least 1 hour prior to testing – this includes treats etc. Water is ok but water should not be shared between littermates in the last 20 minutes before testing.
2. Separate puppies from each other for at least 20 minutes prior to testing – ensuring they cannot lick each other, eat dirt etc



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3. Make sure swabs are **fully dried (at least 5-10 minutes)** before placing them back in the packet
4. Make sure the testing part of the swab does not touch any other surface other than inside the puppy's cheek and inside of the swab packet
5. Submit the samples promptly to Orivet (preferably Express Post or deliver direct to St Kilda) or InfogeneNZ (post to Dogs Victoria who send tracked parcels or post directly yourself). Normally the member will be responsible for returning the samples to the DNA Provider.
6. If posting the samples don't put into metal Aust Post Collection Box early on a hot day when the samples won't be collected until later in the day or the next day – it may be better to take them into the Post Office.
7. If retesting is required it may be advisable to submit blood and swabs.

The biggest reason for sample failure is wet swabs – any swabs with visible thick saliva/drool will not dry properly and will result in testing failures. Discard the swab and collect another sample.

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.

Microchipping form for litter registration

Members require a copy of the litter microchip certification form, completed at the time of microchipping with microchip barcode stickers attached and signed by their veterinarian to be able to register their litter. [Microchip certification form](https://www.dogsvictoria.org.au/media/6668/veterinarian-microchipping-certification-form-copy-form.pdf)
<https://www.dogsvictoria.org.au/media/6668/veterinarian-microchipping-certification-form-copy-form.pdf>

Sampling regularly and need extra swabs?

Orivet swabs: Go to the [Orivet website](#), select register as a vet, create an account and order swabs.
InfogeneNZ swabs: Email dnadogsvic@dogsvictoria.org.au with your postal details and quantity required and they will be posted to you.

Further information about ordering tests/swabs online for members

Dogs Victoria website

<https://dogsvictoria.org.au/breeders/dna-parentage-verification/>

Orivet Help Instructions

<https://dogsvictoria.org.au/media/6920/dna-presentation-for-members-orivet-pdf.pdf>

InfogeneNZ Help Instructions

<https://dogsvictoria.org.au/media/6921/dna-presentation-for-members-infogenenz-pdf.pdf>

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