



# Tips for your litter visit to the Vet

It is important to try and make your litter's visit to the veterinarian as positive as possible. Whether your veterinarian comes to your house or you take your litter to the clinic there are things you can do to make the visit as smooth as possible. Some breeders may choose, in consultation with their veterinarian, to microchip and DNA swab their puppies prior to 6 weeks of age and then return to their veterinarian for a separate visit at 6 weeks of age for vaccination.

## Once the puppies are born:-

- Order your DNA tests and swabs for the puppies from your chosen Provider – this will allow time for the swabs to arrive before your veterinary visit. If the parents have not been DNA profiled you will need to arrange to have samples collected from them as well.
- Make sure your Source number is valid (renewed within the last 12 months) and you have a record of the number with you at your veterinary visit for the microchipping form.

## Before your veterinary visit:-

- Make your veterinary appointment well in advance because microchipping, DNA swab collection +/- vaccination for a litter takes time and your veterinarian may not be able to fit you in without adequate notice.
- Ensure you can individually identify each puppy – markings/collars etc
- Complete your details and the puppies' details on your chosen provider's submission paperwork for the puppy DNA swab samples.
- Take a copy of the [microchip certification form](#) filled out with all the litter details so the veterinarian can attach the microchip stickers and sign the bottom of the form.

- Take copies of the [Puppy Health Check certificate](#) with the puppy details filled out – one for each puppy. Some veterinarians may have their own health certificate on their computer system – check with your veterinarian.
- If the dam of the litter has not already had a post whelping check she will need to be checked by the veterinarian and have the [Post Whelping Veterinary Certificate](#) completed.
- If you are taking your puppies in the car don't feed them for at least a couple of hours before travel so they are less likely to feel nauseous or vomit.
- Make sure you give puppies plenty of time to empty their bladder and bowels before you put them in the car.



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## **During your veterinary visit:-**

- Do not feed your puppies treats and separate the puppies from each other as much as possible until they have had their DNA swabs collected.
- Assist the veterinarian by providing the paperwork/ swab for each puppy as they are examined – it will be easier if you have listed the puppies in the same order on the DNA provider submission form and the microchip certification form so the veterinarian can work down the list of puppies in order. Be prepared with a pack of swabs/puppy health check certificate for each puppy in a labelled ziplock plastic bag. The veterinarian may then add DNA swab labels/microchip stickers to each bag (+/- vaccination certificates) and this will keep each puppy's information sorted and in one place.
- Take a photo of the completed DNA sample submission forms before they are sealed in to the tamperproof bag so that you can activate samples (Orivet) or envelope details (InfogeneNZ).

## **After your veterinary visit:-**

- Orivet – activate your DNA samples (pay for DNA testing if you have not already done this).
- Send DNA samples, preferably by Express Post, to your chosen DNA Provider.
- Make copies of the litter vaccination and health certificates to keep for your records.
- If you have a microchip scanner – check the microchips are still scanning correctly 24-48 hours after the visit.

## ***CHECKLIST***

- DNA Swab kits for puppies/parents
- Completed DNA Testing Submission forms
- Microchip certification form
- Source Number
- Puppy Health Certificates in separate ziplock plastic bags (one per puppy)
- Dam – Post Whelping Veterinary certificate