

Genetic/Congenital Disease

Labrador Retrievers

Cataracts – certified by CERF (Canine Eye Registry Foundation)
Cavitating leukodystrophy (muscular dystrophy)
Cerebellar abiotrophy – disorder of balance
Cervical vertebral instability (“Wobbler”) – neck problems causing pain, weakness and paralysis
Cherry Eye (prolapsed 3rd eyelid)
Cleft palate, cleft lip
Congenital heart disease – tricuspid valve dysplasia (cardiologist listens for murmur)
Congenital portosystemic shunt – leads to liver failure if untreated
Diabetes mellitus (lack of insulin)
Ectopic ureter – causes urinary incontinence
Elbow dysplasia (fragmented coronoid process) - register x-rays with OFA (Orthopedic Foundation for Animals)
Hereditary hypoglycemia
Hereditary myopathy (muscle weakness)
Hypertonic myopathy (muscle stiffness)
Idiopathic megaesophagus (enlarged esophagus)
Microphthalmus (small eyes) and retinal dysplasia (blindness)
Narcolepsy
OCD (osteochondrosis dessicans) – shoulder lameness in young dogs
Progressive retinal atrophy (gradual blindness)
Puppy strangles (juvenile pyoderma)
Reflex myoclonus (seizure like disorder of sudden muscle contractions)

Golden Retrievers

Cataracts – certified by CERF (Canine Eye Registry Foundation)
Cerebellar abiotrophy – disorder of balance
Cherry Eye (prolapsed 3rd eyelid)
Congenital heart disease – subaortic stenosis (cardiologist listens for murmur)
Congenital portosystemic shunt – leads to liver failure if untreated
Dystichiasis (abnormal eyelashes that can cause corneal ulcers)
Ectopic ureter – causes urinary incontinence
Elbow dysplasia (fragmented coronoid process) - register x-rays with OFA (Orthopedic Foundation for Animals)
Enophthalmos
Entropion (rolled in eyelids)
Increased incidence of neoplasia in certain lines of Goldens
OCD (osteochondrosis dessicans) – shoulder lameness in young dogs
Myelination problems – neurologic disorders, including seizures
Primary ciliary dyskinesia – chronic pneumonia
Puppy strangles (juvenile pyoderma)
X-linked muscular dystrophy