



*Yorkshire Terrier Club of America, Inc.*

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The Yorkshire terrier is a generally healthy breed with a life expectancy of 12-15 years.

Yorkshire Terriers are a YTCA Board approved CHIC breed.

Our CHIC requirements are:

- OFA Patella's - a knee *screening* to rule out conditions which can occur in any toy breed
- OFA Eyes - an eye *screening* to rule out juvenile cataracts, persistent pupillary membranes and over 50 other eye diseases

The OFA Patellar and OFA Eye screenings are only registrable after one year of age and the OFA Eye screening is recommended every 3 years thereafter.

The Yorkshire Terrier Breed has two (2) definitive genetic *tests* - prcd-PRA and PLL - both eye tests. prcd-PRA can cause early onset blindness and is 100% avoidable in offspring with genetic *testing* of the parents at any age prior to breeding.

There are other conditions which may affect the breed such as Liver Shunt, Microvascular Dysplasia (MVD), Protein-Losing Enteropathy (PLE), Encephalitis, Degenerative Myelopathy (DM) and Hyperuricosuria which can be discussed with your breeder. The bile acid test may suggest the possibility of liver shunt or may suggest microvascular dysplasia. The definitive test for liver shunt is diagnostic imaging. Research is ongoing for encephalitis, DM and kidney disease. The YTCA is also currently funding a research grant through the Canine Health Foundation to identify a genetic marker for PLE so that this may be added to our list of definitive genetic testing in the future.

As in all toy breeds, dental maintenance is important. Daily/weekly brushings will help your dog maintain healthy teeth and gums throughout their lifetime.

This Health Statement was approved by the Yorkshire Terrier Club of America on August 20, 2019.