

Detection of expanded 12-mer repeat in  
NHLRC1 gene causing Lafora epilepsy in  
several dog breeds

**Sample**

Sample: 08-12345  
Name: Lassie DEMO  
Breed: ---  
Tattoo number: 1392013  
Microchip: 123 456 789 012 345  
Reg. number: REGQ12345  
Date of birth: 31.12.1909  
Sex: female  
Date received: 25.11.2008  
Sample type: blood  
The identity of the animal has been checked.

**Customer**

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**Result: N<sub>2</sub>/N<sub>3</sub>**

**Result codes:**

- N<sub>2</sub>/N<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>3</sub>/N<sub>3</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>/N<sub>3</sub> = negative genotype, dog carrying two or three 12-mers.
- N<sub>2</sub>/P, N<sub>3</sub>/P = carrier of Lafora epilepsy.
- P/P = dog affected by Lafora epilepsy.

**Explanation**

Presence or absence of expanded 12-mer repeat in NHLRC1 gene causing Lafora epilepsy in Beagles, Miniature Wirehaired Dachshunds, Basset Hound and Chihuahua was tested. The occurrence of this mutation in other breeds cannot be excluded.

Generally, the clinical signs appear at 5-6 years of age or later. Epileptic seizures include mainly sudden involuntary muscle jerking. Over time seizures are accompanied by other neurological symptoms such as ataxia, twinkling, blindness or dementia. This form of epilepsy is incurable and fatal.

Expanded 12-mer repeat in NHLRC1 gene causing Lafora epilepsy is inherited as an autosomal recessive trait. That means the disease affects dogs with P/P genotype only. Carriers are healthy without symptoms of epilepsy. In offspring of two carriers following genotype distribution can be expected: 25 % N/N, 25 % P/P and 50 % N/P.

Method: SOP187-Lafora, ASA-PCR of DNA modified template

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Responsible person: Mgr. Martina Šafrová, Laboratory Manager



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