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These procedure rules and regulations are intended to explain the BVA/Kennel Club Elbow Dysplasia Scheme and to provide helpful instruction to those using the scheme. They are due to be effective from 11 May 2022 and replace all previous documents in relation to the scheme. These rules and regulations may be modified from time to time; please consult the [BVA website](#) for the latest version.

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Elbow Dysplasia (ED) is a common multifactorial condition manifesting as a variety of developmental disorders of the canine elbow and leading to osteoarthritis of the elbow joint(s). The disease has a



elbows radiographed at the same time and the submissions sent together. In such cases these procedure rules and regulations will have to be read in conjunction with those for the BVA/Kennel Club Hip Dysplasia (ED) Scheme (details available from [BVA website](#)).

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The breed specific statistics include Elbow Dysplasia results for all breeds that have been tested since 1999 broken down by breed and grade to give a representative overview of the ED status of the dogs graded in that breed. When the certificate is available to the submitting veterinary surgeon, a copy of the current breed specific statistics can be obtained from the [BVA](#) and [Kennel Club](#) websites so that the veterinary surgeon may best advise his/ her client regarding the dog's suitability for breeding.

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The dog's owner should approach his or her veterinary surgeon and request that the Elbow radiographs should be acquired and submitted for scoring under the Scheme. It is possible to arrange for radiographs of more than one dog to be submitted on the same occasion. The following procedure should be observed:

- a) the **minimum** age of a dog for submission under the Scheme is one year. There is no upper age limit;
- b) the dog must be permanently identified by either microchip or tattoo;
- c) suitable arrangements must be made with the veterinary surgeon for the dog's Elbows to be radiographed;
- d) the following documents must be made available at the time of radiography if it is registered with the Kennel Club (KC):
 - i) the KC Registration Certificate of the dog,
 - ii) any related transfer or change of name certificate;
- e) prior to radiography of the dog's Elbows, the owner and Veterinary Surgeon must complete the "Owners Details" and "Dogs Details" section of the online submission portal, verifying that the details given in these sections relate to the dog being submitted, that the details are correct and granting permission for the results to be used in the ways specified.



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The following information **MUST** be included on digital images:

- a) **BOTH**
 - i) the Kennel Club Registration Number (from the top right hand corner of the KC Registration Certificate) for dogs registered with the KC (**no other form of identification for KC registered dogs is acceptable**). For dogs not registered with the KC, identification as used by the veterinary practice, other registering body or breed club may be used. **AND**
 - ii) microchip or tattoo number
- b) the date of radiography
- c) left and/or right marker(s).

NB Radiographs which are not correctly identified will be returned to the submitting veterinary surgeon and an appropriately identified radiograph requested.

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Correct exposure is essential to provide a radiograph of good diagnostic quality. When radiographing a large or overweight dog with either conventional or digital systems, it is usually necessary to use a grid to minimise the effects of scattered radiation on the image. The image should show good radiographic definition and contrast, and the dorsal acetabular edges (DAE) should be visible superimposed by the femoral heads. The radiograph should be checked for correct positioning, exposure and image quality while the dog is still restrained in case a further radiograph needs to be taken.

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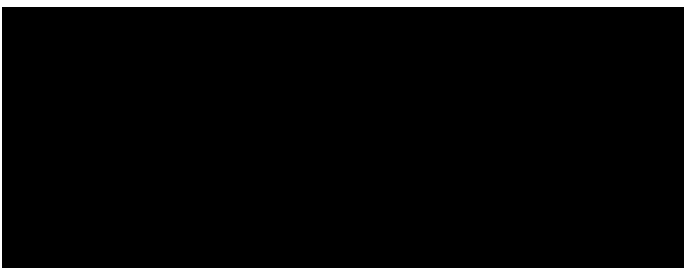
When making your submission, you can upload your radiographs directly to this online portal. All radiographs must be in a DICOM (.dcm) format - all other image types including JPEG, TIFF, EPS and GIF will not upload.

DICOM files are typically large and how much time it will take to upload to this portal will depend on a number of factors including your internal practice network and internet connection. We suggest you shouldn't try to upload multiple submissions across lots of browser windows at the same time as this will cause your uploads to slow down.

Radiograph machines typically save radiographs with long numerical file names. This makes it tricky to identify them when you try to upload them to the portal. To make this easier we suggest saving the dog name as part of the file name. For example: "Millie Gillon-Left Elbow-Ext-1DICOM". It is important that each file is saved under a unique name because files with an identical name cannot be uploaded.

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The procedure for submission under the scheme is as follows:





- a) The veterinary surgeon is responsible for uploading the images and providing the correct details (as the owner would want to see them appear on the completed certificate) on the submission portal.

NB The veterinary surgeon should check that the breed, colour and sex of the dog correlate with those details in the Owner's Declaration and on the KC Registration Certificate. The veterinary surgeon should also check that the details on the KC Registration Certificate have been accurately and completely transposed by the owner.



- a) Pending results:
 - i)

