

7. Recommendations from ECVO regarding age and frequency for eye examinations

The recommendations are made for both animals used for breeding and non-breeding animals, the latter since they may provide vital information about the existence of a specific hereditary eye disease and the mode of inheritance for such a disease.

- For any breeding animal:** ophthalmic examination is performed **once a year** (the ECVO certificate is valid for one year), starting before breeding.
- For a non-breeding animal:** ophthalmic examinations are performed **three times in a lifetime**. The committee recommends that the eye examinations are performed when the animal is 1 year old, 3 years old, 7 years old and older for specific breeds (e.g. Cairn Terrier and ocular melanosis)
- ...**For gonioscopy** (examination for iridocorneal angle abnormality) the examination is performed every third year (the ECVO certificate result for “8 iridocorneal angle abnormality” is valid for three years, starting before breeding).

There is no specific recommendation regarding the age of puppies to be examined, except for the breeds where Collie Eye Anomaly (CEA) is present.

The committee recommends that the eye examination is performed **in these puppies between 6 to 8 weeks of age**, and after they have been microchipped.

