

# VETERINARY TECHNICAL DATASHEET

Dominant Progressive Retinal Atrophy, (DPRA)



Mutation Found In :Bullmastiff, Mastiff

## Disorder Type

- Eye

## Disease Severity

- Moderate/severe

## Background

Dominant Progressive Retinal Atrophy (DPRA) is one form of progressive retinal atrophy (PRA) characterized by degeneration of retinal photoreceptors that result in blindness. DPRA is inherited in an autosomal dominant fashion and has been identified in Bullmastiffs and English Mastiffs. Affected dogs eventually develop blindness.

## Key Signs

- Loss of vision
- Blindness

## Clinical Description

The first clinical sign of the disease is reduced vision in the dark but eventually DPRA will result in blindness. Typically, signs of the disease occur at 6 to 18 months. The rate at which the disease progresses can vary but most affected dogs are blind by the age of 4 years.

## Mode of Inheritance

- autosomal dominant

## Gene Name

- RHO

## Next Steps

Although there is no treatment or cure for this condition, affected dogs often adjust well to vision loss. Owners of affected dogs should be advised that their dog may need extra guidance at times, particular when in unfamiliar surroundings.

## References

Kijas JW, Cideciyan AV, Aleman TS, Pianta MJ, Pearce-Kelling SE, Miller BJ, Jacobson SG, Aguirre GD, Acland GM. Naturally occurring rhodopsin mutation in the dog causes retinal dysfunction and degeneration mimicking human dominant retinitis pigmentosa. Proc Nat Acad Sci U S A 99:6328-6333, 2002.