

OVERVIEW OF BREEDS: Required Special Examinations (incl. Examination Intervals) Prior to a Dog Show – VDH LV Hessen

In consultation with the Veterinary Authority of the City of Kassel, Dr Purkl As of: July 2026

EXAMINATION	U4 Orthopaedic / Neurological Examination	U5 Echocardiography (Cardiac Ultrasound) and/or ECG / Dobermann: 24-hour ECG	Standardised Cambridge Exercise Test or Fitness Test *
CONDITION	Deg. Intervertebral Disc Disease / Discopathies (IVDD), Intervertebral Disc Herniation	(Primary) Dilated Cardiomyopathy (DCM)	BOAS
FREQUENCY	Annually from the age of 3 years (i.e. from the 4th year of life)	Every 2 years from the age of 2 years (i.e. from the 3rd year of life)	Every 2 years from the age of 1 year (i.e. from the 2nd year of life)
Belgian Griffon			×
Boston Terrier			×
Brussels Griffon			×
Dachshund	✗ New form (as of July 2026) required		
Dobermann		×	
English Bulldog			×
French Bulldog			×
Great Dane		×	
Irish Wolfhound		×	
Japanese Chin			×
King-Charles-Spaniel			×
Pekingese			×
Petit Brabançon			×
Pug			×

*

The standardised **Cambridge Exercise Test** (Cambridge Respiratory Function Grading Scheme / BOAS Grading) is accepted. It is internationally recognised and has now been scientifically validated for numerous (17) brachycephalic breeds.

The standardised **Treadmill Fitness Test** is also accepted. The respective examination centres provide the specific forms (Cambridge Test Certificate or Treadmill Fitness Test Certificate); these certificates must be submitted.

Examination centres can be found here:

Examination Centres in Germany

Cambridge and Treadmill Tests



tierschutz.vdh.de/cambridge-test/fitnesstest

Examination Centres in Europe

Cambridge Test



In Great Britain and Ireland:

[How can I book an assessment](#)

In other European countries:

[Questions and answers](#) – click on

[What countries operate the RFG Scheme](#)

www.royalkennelclub.com/health-and-dog-care/health-dog-care/health/getting-started-with-health-testing-and-screening/respiratory-function-grading-scheme/

Other exercise tests / BOAS tests will only be accepted if the examination report provides verifiable documentation that the test was standardised, that respiratory sounds were also assessed by auscultation / using a stethoscope (both at rest and after exercise), and that the degree of nostril stenosis was assessed and documented in accordance with the grading scheme by Liu et al. 2016 (see Annex to the “General Clinical Examination” form).