

Today will be about: PennHip vs OFA

**PennHip-** Evaluation for hips only! It provides a number value for the laxity of the hips. The larger the laxity the more likely they are to develop OA/dysplasia. The lower the value the better the hips and less likely to develop OA/dysplasia. These values are compared to others within the breed. PennHip can be performed as early as 16 weeks. All dogs must be sedated! Once you start the PennHip process you must submit the radiographs. Only Dr. Ryan, Dr. Duck or Dr. Chase can do these appointments at this time.

**OFA-** OFA is the registry database for health-related testing (we commonly do hips, elbows, heart, and thyroid). OFA prelims for Hips and Elbows can be done after 4 months. Any submission made before 24 months is considered “preliminary”. The prelim films are reviewed by one radiologist whereas 24 months they are reviewed by 3 radiologists and averaged. No sedation is required but may be needed in some dogs. OFAs can be scheduled with any doctor.

#### **CSRs-**

- PennHip or OFA? PH= 60 minutes, OFA Hips or Hips and Elbows= 60 minutes, Elbows only= 40 minutes
- How old are they? If under 2 years and requesting OFA, make sure they know it will be preliminaries.
- In Heat? Let the owners know we can still do the procedure BUT we may see some false laxity during estrous.
- Are they AKC registered? AKC registration is not required but please ask when scheduling for the owner to get us any registration information that we may use for paperwork. If not AKC registered, they must have a microchip.

**Assistants-** Be prepared to help hold! You guys have gotten great at helping and positioning for the x-rays!

#### **ERTs/LVNs-**

- Sedation vs No? ASK regardless of if they are doing PennHip or OFA. If the dog is anxious, sedation will help get the best results and it is helpful to be prepared instead of running back to the owner mid-appointment.
- If PennHip, make sure you have the Caliber prepped and ready for the doctor.
- You should feel comfortable taking the required radiographs but if you are not, please ask your DVM for assistance. If your DVM is not available, ask assistant for help.
- PennHip will be submitted by the DVM but OFAs are submitted by the technician. Please see the OFA Submission SOP for labeling and submission.