

Health

Health problems that can be found in the breed:

- [Epilepsy](#)
- [Hemangiosarcoma](#)
- [Legg-Perthes disease](#) (degeneration of the hip)
- [Patellar Luxation](#) (slipped stifles)
- [von Willebrand disease](#) (vWD) (Bleeding disorder)
- [Progressive retinal atrophy](#) (PRA)
- [Color dilution alopecia](#) (hair loss in dilute pigmented dogs, i.e.: blues, blue fawns, etc.)
- Leg Breaks (most common under the age of 2)
- [Cataracts](#)
- [Vitreous degeneration](#)
- [Liver shunts](#)
- [Autoimmune hemolytic anemia](#)
- [Periodontal disease](#), gum recession, early tooth loss, bad tooth enamel
- [Hypothyroidism](#), Autoimmune Thyroid Disease ([Hashimoto's disease](#))

Their scissor-bite and thin jaw bones make them susceptible to [periodontal disease](#), which can be avoided with good dental care. Daily brushing has been shown to be very beneficial as well as regular dental cleanings from the vet.

Responsible breeders will routinely check their dogs for the onset of various inherited disorders, these commonly include (but are not limited to): CERF examinations on eyes, OFA patellar examinations, OFA thyroid function panels, von Willebrand's factor, OFA hip and Legg-Perthes disease x-rays, and others. In research by the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals, the Italian Greyhound was found to be the least affected by [hip dysplasia](#) out of 157 breeds. Tests were conducted on 169 individual Italian Greyhounds, of which none were found to have hip dysplasia and 59.2% scored excellent on their hip evaluations.

