

# Patellar Luxation Database

Please type or print legibly. Scan this as a pdf and upload against your dog on Dogs NZ website. Logon and under my dogs on your home page you can upload test against the dog. If posting send to Dogs New Zealand, Private Bag 50903, Porirua 5240. Phone: (04) 237-4489 www.dogsnz.org.nz

## Owner details

Registered Name		Registration number
Breed	Sex	Colour
Microchip number	Date of Birth (dd/mm/yy)	
Registration number of Sire	Registration number of Dam	
Owner(s) Name(s)		
Mailing address		
Phone (Mobile)	Email	
tick	I declare that details of the dog described are accurate and relate to the dogs tested.	
tick	I hereby authorise release of the test results to Dogs New Zealand for publication on this dog's pedigree.	
tick	I give my consent for these results to be used for the purpose of statistical analysis and scientific research and for the statistical and scientific research to be published.	
Signature of Owner		Date

## Veterinarian section

Examining veterinarian's name	Date of current examination (dd/mm/yy)
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### Patellar Examination Results (tick boxes)

#### 1. Normal

right  left

#### 2. Patellar Luxation

bilateral  
 unilateral  right  left  
 luxated  medial  lateral  
 luxation is:  intermittent  permanent  
 age of onset  < 2 months  2-6 months  
 6-12 months  >12 months

#### 3. Classification of luxation

**Grade 1** - The patella easily luxates manually at full extension of the stifle joint, but returns to the tochlea when released.  
 **Grade 2** - There is frequent patellar luxation which, in some cases becomes more or less permanent.  
 **Grade 3** - The patella is permanently luxated with torsion of the tibia and deviation of the tibial crest of between 30 degrees and 50 degrees from the cranial/caudal plane.  
 **Grade 4** - The tibia is medially twisted and the tibial crest may show further deviation medially with the results that it lies 50 degrees to 90 degrees from cranial/caudal plane.

I certify that the examination was performed according to the ABS procedure

I DID verify tattoo/microchip information on this dog

I DID NOT verify tattoo/microchip information on this dog

Veterinarian Signature

Date

Vet stamp

# Luxating Patella Classification

A method of classifying the degree of luxation and bony deformity is useful for diagnosis, and can be applied to either medial or lateral luxations by reversing the medial-lateral directional references.

The position of the patella can most easily be palpated by starting at the tibial tubercle and working proximally along the patellar ligament to the patella.

## Grade 1

The patella easily luxates manually at full extension of the stifle joint, but returns to the trochlea when released. No crepitation is apparent. The medial, or very occasionally, lateral deviation of the tibial crest (with lateral luxation of the patella) is only minimal, and there is very slight rotation of the tibia.

Flexion and extension of the stifle joint is in a straight line with no abduction of the hock.

## Grade 2

There is frequent patellar luxation which, in some cases, becomes more or less permanent. The limb is sometimes carried, although weight bearing routinely occurs with the stifle remaining slightly flexed. As much as 30 degrees of medial tibial torsion and a slight medial deviation of the tibial crest may exist.

When the patella is resting medially the hock is slightly abducted. If the condition is bilateral, more weight is thrown onto the forelimbs. Many cases in this grade live with the condition reasonably well for many years, but the constant luxation of the patella over the medial lip of the trochlea causes erosion of the articulating surface of the patella and also the proximal area of the medial lip.

This results in crepitation becoming apparent when the patella is luxated manually.

## Grade 3

The patella is permanently luxated with torsion of the tibia and deviation of the tibial crest of between 30 degrees and 50 degrees from the cranial/caudal plane.

Although the luxation is not intermittent, many animals use the limb with the stifle held in a semi-flexed position. Flexion and extension of the joint causes abduction and adduction of the hock. The trochlea is very shallow or even flattened.

## Grade 4

The tibia is medially twisted and the tibial crest may show further deviation medially with the result that it lies 50 degrees to 90 degrees from the cranial/caudal plane.

The patella is permanently luxated. The patella lies just above the medial condyle and a space can be palpated between the patellar ligament and the distal end of the femur.

The trochlea is absent or even convex. The limb is carried, or the animal moves in a crouched position, with the limb partly flexed