

I would once again like to thank you for participating in Give a Dog a Genome (GDG).

Since the last update was sent out in December we have continued to work very hard. Although it may not seem like it at times, we have made significant progress.

In summary:

- A total of **87 dogs** from **77* breeds** will be sequenced as part of GDG.

We asked each breed to complete a small health survey, indicating three health disorders that are currently of concern among the breed community.

- Health forms have been returned by **76 breeds**.
- **95 disorders** in total have been listed.
- We have assessed **63/76 health forms** so far. This process has taken longer than we anticipated and we are grateful for the continued patience of all breeds, particularly the breeds for which we have yet to assess the health forms or request samples.

To keep up the momentum, in addition to assessing the health forms we have also been communicating and liaising with collaborators (**10 collaborators** so far **in Europe and the USA, Figure 1**), recruiting and processing swab samples, sending suitable DNA for whole genome sequencing, and processing sequencing data.

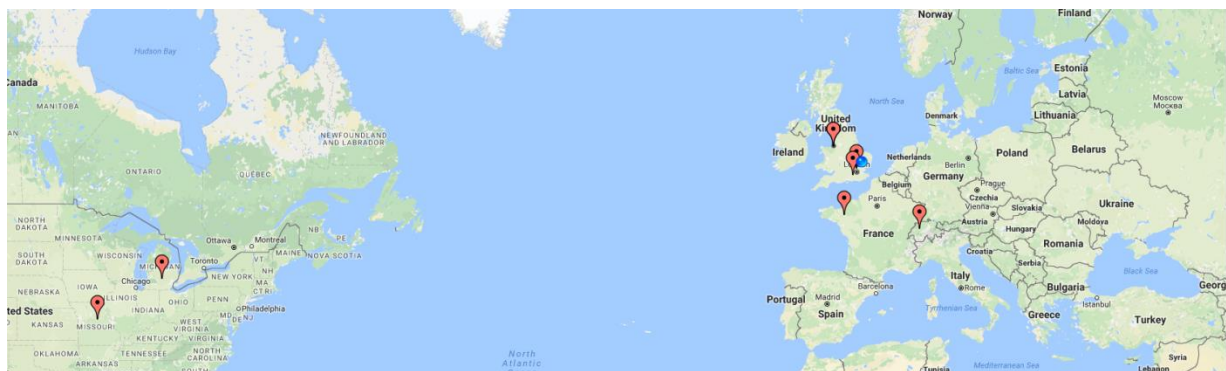


Figure 1. The Canine genetics team will be sharing some of the GDG data with fellow researchers in Europe and the USA who are working on specific conditions.

- We have sent off a total of **40 samples** from **39 breeds** for sequencing.
- These samples encompass a variety of conditions and a number of healthy controls.
- Sequencing has been completed and the data downloaded for **28 samples**.
- Analysis has begun on some of the data, but it is enormously time consuming.

It is extremely difficult to grasp and appreciate just how enormous this project is and why it all takes so much time. Please rest assured that we are working as fast as we possibly can. If you are one of the breeds that has not heard anything from us, it is not because we have forgotten about you or your breed is less important to us.

Thank you for your incredible support of and participation in Give a Dog a Genome.

If you have any questions or concerns please email me on gdg@aht.org.uk.

Yours faithfully,

Louise and the rest of the Give a Dog a Genome Team

* A further two genomes, from two additional breeds, will be sequenced alongside the 75 target breeds as they have contributed the full £2000 to sequence a genome.