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## Heart and Hip Dysplasia Investigation in Germany

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Since 1994 the German Sighthound Club (DWZRV) requires that the Irish Wolfhound dogs and bitches intended to breed from are radiographed for hip dysplasia and, since June 1999, also undergo heart testing, the results being published in the official magazine *Unsere Windhunde*.

Hip Displasia		1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	Total	%
HD	O A	172	85	105	106	79	72	619	79,77%
	I B	36	24	20	15	10	10	115	14,82%
	II C	2	6	4	4	2	1	19	2,45%
	III D	4	0	4	5	2	0	15	1,93%
	IV E	3	1	0	1	2	1	8	1,03%
Total		217	116	133	131	95	84	776	100,00%

Hounds with OA and IB are allowed to be bred (= 94,6%).

The rate of excluded hounds due to HD is only 5,4%.

The investigation of the heart comprises electrocardiography (ECG) and ultrasound examination (echocardiography). The tests must be done every two years, this means that a hound declared negative at 2 years must pass the test again at the age of 4 if he is intended to reproduce.

Heart Investigation	No of hounds total		negative		positive	
Ultra sonic + ECG	285	100%	250	87,7%	35	12,3%

Some statistics about fertility in Irish Wolfhounds for the years 1997 - 1998 - 1999.

Fertility	1997		1998		1999	
Matings	146	100%	150	100%	126	100%
Litters	85	58,2%	64	42,7%	71	56,3%
Not conceived	61	41,8%	86	57,3%	55	43,7%