



# SCWTCA Endowment, Inc. SCWTCA Inc.



## Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Annual Testing For Healthy Dogs:

Every year, beginning at age 1, a Wheatens annual check-up should include blood and urine testing. The test results can uncover early indications of diseases found in Wheatens, such as protein-losing nephropathy (PLN), protein-losing enteropathy (PLE), renal dysplasia or juvenile renal disease (RD or JRD), and Addison's disease. Other potential problems that might otherwise go undiagnosed might also be discovered.

### Suggested Annual Testing includes:

- Biochemical Profile, aka Chem Screen – *includes total protein, albumin, globulin, creatinine, blood urea nitrogen (BUN), SDMA, cholesterol, sodium, potassium, phosphorus, etc.*
- Complete Blood Count (CBC)
- Urinalysis – *including specific gravity, dipstick, and urinary sediment*
- Urine Protein/Creatinine Ratio (UPC) or a Microalbuminuria (MA) test. These are add-on tests to the urinalysis and need to be requested.
- In tick or heartworm endemic areas, a SNAP-4DxPlus or AccuPlex4 test.
- If you are concerned about finicky appetite, gulpies, occasional gastrointestinal signs, inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) or PLE in the dog or its relatives, ask your vet about additional testing such as fecal examinations, the Antech CE-IBD Assay test, the TAMU GI panel-plus (B12/folate/TLI/PLI with resting cortisol added), and the TAMU Alpha1-proteinase inhibitor (A1-PI) fecal test. Visit the Wheaton Health Endowment to obtain a test kit for the Alpha 1-proteinase inhibitor fecal test.
- Blood Pressure Measurement (BPM): Ideally, the vet will obtain the dog's BPM during each healthy visit (starting at 1 year of age), in order to get a baseline and to get the dog used to having the procedure done.

### The PLN Variant Gene DNA Test is Recommended for All Wheaten Terriers:

It is recommended that each Wheaten Terrier dog have its DNA sample tested for the PLN-associated variant alleles. The results will determine what risk group (low, intermediate, or high) the dog is in for developing PLN during its lifetime. The DNA test is available in the USA at PennGen (PennVet, where it was developed), Optical Selection (Mars), Embarkvet (Cornell), and in Europe at Laboklin. See <https://scwtca.org/health/health-testing/dna-testing/>.

There are no genetic tests yet for PLE, IBD, RD/JRD, or Addison's disease. Dogs that are carrying one or two copies of the PLN-associated variant alleles should be checked for proteinuria more often, perhaps 2-4 times a year, especially after age 3 years.

**Wheaten Health Database:**

The Endowment offers a database of over 80,000 Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers. We ask that all Wheaten owners enter their dog in the database and list any health and/or behavioral issues that they have. Visit us at [www.scwtodb.org](http://www.scwtodb.org).

***For more information on Wheaten health visit:***

- The Wheaten Health Endowment at [www.wheatenhealthendowment.org](http://www.wheatenhealthendowment.org)
- The Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America, Inc. at [www.scwtca.org](http://www.scwtca.org)
- The Wheaten Health Initiative at <http://www.wheatenhealthinitiative.com/>
- SCWT Health and Pedigree Database at [www.scwtodb.org](http://www.scwtodb.org)

**About the Wheaten Health Endowment:** The SCWTCA Endowment, Inc., a 501c3 nonprofit corporation dba the Wheaten Health Endowment, was established by the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America, Inc., in 2001 for the purpose of supporting research related to the health of SCWTs. Learn more about the Endowment at [www.wheatenhealthendowment.org](http://www.wheatenhealthendowment.org).

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