

# Sample Collection Procedure <u>Swab Collection</u>

CAUTION: To prevent cross-contamination, do not allow other dogs to interfere

while you are collecting from the intended dog. If you are collecting DNA samples from more than one dog, wash your hands thoroughly between each collection to also prevent any cross-contamination of DNA samples.

## 1. Fill Out the Buccal Swab Collection Kit Envelope

Before you start collecting the DNA samples, please fill out the Buccal Swab Collection Kit envelope with the submitter's name and information about the dog that is to be tested.

#### 2. Remove Swabs from Wrapper

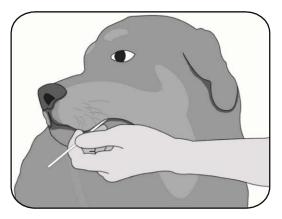
Open the plastic wrapper at the end opposite from the swab tip (soft end). Remove one swab by grasping the handle and pulling it out of the wrapper. Avoid touching the tip of the swab.

#### 3. Swab the Dog's Cheek

Hold the dog's head firmly against your body with one hand. With the other hand, insert the swab into the dog's mouth and place it against the inside surface of the cheek. Firmly rub the swab against the inside of the cheek, rotating the swab for about ten seconds. The objective is to collect loose cheek cells, NOT saliva.

# 4. Place the Used Swabs in the Buccal Swab Envelope

Once the cheek cells have been collected, immediately insert the swab into the paper Buccal Swab Collection Kit envelope, which was labelled in Step 1.



DO NOT return the swabs to the original plastic wrapper that they arrived in.



Repeat Steps 2, 3, and 4 for the remaining three swabs on the same dog. Please be sure to use two swabs on each of the dog's cheeks.

### 5. Seal the Envelope

After all, four swabs have been used to collect DNA samples for the same dog, place all swabs in the buccal swab collection envelope. Make sure that the envelope is filled out completely and correctly, then seal the envelope.

#### 6. Fill Out the DNA Testing Submission

Complete the accompanying DNA Testing Submission Form with the submitter's information, information about each dog collected, and payment information. Once all samples have been collected, place the Buccal Swab Collection Kit and the submission form into an envelope and mail to us at the address on the return envelope provided.