

Boxers

ARVC-1 & ARVC-2

Currently there are two genetic tests available for ARVC. According to geneticists there are possibly up to 5 more genes that have not been identified yet. A dog can be Negative for one or both of the known genes and still develop ARVC.

**Dogs are not ARVC “Clear.”** Results are

Negative

Positive Heterozygous

Positive Homozygous

After reading discussion elsewhere on social media I contacted Animal Genetics, one of the companies who tests for ARVC-1 but not ARVC-2. I spoke at length several times with regard to why they have not provided the ARVC-2 test. Shared with me was once a new gene is identified Animal Genetics develops their new test through their own process in conjunction with information garnered through studying published research from the developers of the test.

Details about how tests are created were shared with me, no simple process as one might imagine. I asked about the Animal Genetics reporting dogs “ARVC Clear”. They shared their initial reporting was as such as they had no knowledge any further genes existed. We now know there are at least several more.

In discussion with an ABC member closely associated with the Health committee, it was shared with me that the ARVC-2 research from NCSU is available for a fee.

Based on our exchange, it is my understanding that Animal Genetics is not questioning the validity of the ARVC-2 test, they are simply waiting for the completed NCSU research used to create the ARVC-2 test to be published.

At the AKC Canine Health Foundation National Parent Club Canine Health Conference, Dr. Meurs shared that a second gene variant, ARVC-2, has been found in a regulatory gene involved in important cardiac proteins. The research was funded by ABCF and administered by the AKC Canine Health Foundation.