What you should know about health before buying a Golden Retriever puppy

The Four Core Health Certifications

(Should be completed on both parents)

Hips

Elbows

Testing

X-ray evaluation of mature dogs at or after 24 months of age

OFA

Excellent Good Fair

Preliminary reports are not certifications

Or PennHIP

DI of .54 or better in both hips

<.30 = Low Risk .30-.49 = Mild Risk .50-.54 = Moderate Risk for Osteoarthritis

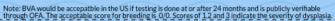
Note: BVA would be accepatble in the US if testing is done at or after 24 months and is publicly verifiable through OFA. Acceptable scores for breeding total 13 or less.

OFA

Normal X-ray evaluation of mature dogs at or after 24 months of age or more

OFA is the only organization currently offering elbow evaluation in the US

Preliminary reports are not certifications



OFA

Normal by a Cardiologist at 12 months of age or more

Practioner and Specialist certifications are not recommended

Avoid altered or fraudulent forms by verifing through OFA's website

OFA

Normal or Passing with Breeder Option by a Veterinary Ophthalmologist done within the last 12 months

This certification expires in 12 months and must be done annually
Avoid altered or fraudulent forms by verifing through OFA's website



Ranked 41 out of 177 higher risk breeds

20.1% of Golden hips are Dysplastic

Not detectable without x-ray evaluation

Surgical repair
Over \$4000.00 per hip
1-2 month recovery period

Ranked 31 out of 117 higher risk breeds

11.1% of Golden elbows are Dysplastic

Not detectable without x-ray evaluation

Surgical repair \$1500.00-\$4000.00 per elbow

Ranked 54 out of 140 higher risk breeds

Subvalvular Aortic Stenosis (SAS)
Affects seemingly healthy dogs
Sudden death of young dogs may occur



Blinding disorders exist in the Golden Retriever breed

Pigmentary Uveitis may present at any stage of life

Additional Health Testing



Anasazi Goldens

DNA testing is available for a limited number of disorders

This means Affected and Carrier animals can be responsibly used while not producing Affected puppies by breeding to Normal status dogs

For more information, please refer to these Sources:

The Orthopedic Foundation for Animals - www.offa.org - Also where certifications should be verified

The Ohio State University Veterinary Medical Center

The Ohio State University Veterinary Medical Center Embrace Pet Insurance compiled by The Golden Retriever Club of America

PennHIP - http://info.antechimagingservices.com/pennhip/

