

## Stargardt Disease – Basic Issues Regarding Stargardt Carriers

*The reader is encouraged to do their own research regarding this issue.*

### **A.I.-driven Google Question - If a dog is a Stargardt Disease carrier, does this affect the dog's health?**

<https://www.google.com/search?q=If+a+dog+is+a+Stargardt+disease+carrier+does+this+affect+the+dogs+health>

A dog that is a carrier for [Stargardt disease](#) (possessing only one copy of the mutated gene) does **not** experience any negative impact on their health or vision. The disease is autosomal recessive, meaning a dog must inherit two copies of the variant to develop clinical signs like retinal degeneration or vision loss.

Carriers are clinically healthy and will not suffer from the vision loss associated with the disease.

### **Wisdom Panel – Testing and Genotyping**

<https://www.wisdompanel.com/en-us/dog-health-conditions/stgd>

“This disease is autosomal recessive meaning that two copies of the mutation are needed for disease signs to occur. A carrier dog with one copy of the STGD mutation can be safely bred with a clear dog with no copies of the STGD mutation. About half of the puppies will have one copy (carriers) and half will have no copies of the STGD mutation. Puppies in a litter which is expected to contain carriers should be tested prior to breeding. Carrier to carrier matings are not advised as the resulting litter may contain affected puppies. Please note: It is possible that disease signs similar to the ones caused by the STGD mutation could develop due to a different genetic or clinical cause.”