OFA versus PennHIP--What’s the Difference?
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The Two Systems

What are the similarities?
The Two Systems

- Both offer a system that can help a committed breeder reduce the incidence of CHD in their population of dogs or cats
The Two Systems

- Both are data banks

- Another data bank is the Genetic Disease Center (GDC)
All systems

- All have animal health interests at heart
The OFA

- The OFA is a not-for-profit corporation founded in 1966 as the brainchild of John M. Olin, a committed retriever fancier (Nilo Farms)
The purposes of the OFA are:

- To collate and disseminate information concerning orthopedic and genetic diseases of animals.
- To advise, encourage and establish control programs to lower the incidence of orthopedic and genetic diseases.
- To encourage and finance research in orthopedic and genetic disease in animals.
- To receive funds and to make grants to carry out these objectives.
OFA provides a diagnostic service and issues a document stating the phenotype evaluation of a canine pelvis.
Evaluations are from a pool of board certified radiologists:

- Preliminary evaluations by one radiologist
- After age 24 months, evaluations are the consensus of three radiologists
PennHIP®

Pennsylvania Hip Improvement Program was developed by Dr. Gail Smith in 1983
PennHIP®

- PennHIP® is a patented hip dysplasia diagnostic technology licensed to ICG Synbiotics in 1994
Goals: PennHIP®

- To reduce the frequency of CHD in all breeds of dogs
- Closed registry
So…

- Do the systems work?
And

- Major reason for slow improvement is lack of usage by breeders
Any system used consistently is a population of dogs will improve results.
However

Usage of any diagnostic modality is owner and/or breeder optional