

# Health & Rescue Foundation of PBGVCA

## Letter from the President



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*The mission of the Health & Rescue Foundation is to promote the welfare of the breed by providing funding for research, education, and rescue.*

## Have any of your PBGVs experienced seizures? OR have your PBGVs been seizure free?

We have exciting news! The Foundation has funded a PBGV-specific research project to study epilepsy in PBGVs.

**Please see my article on the epilepsy project in this issue of *Saber Tails*.**

The investigator is Dr Karen Muñana of North Carolina State University. Her first step will be to determine the **prevalence of epilepsy in PBGVs**.



The success of the project hinges on knowing how many PBGVs have had seizures AND how many have never had seizures.

People with PBGVs who suffer from seizures are very motivated to answer the call for information and blood samples. Their lives have been turned upside down and their dogs have suffered. They don't want anyone to go through this in the future if possible.

What about the rest of us who have seizure-free dogs? We ALL need to respond to the survey. The investigator cannot get an accurate prevalence of epilepsy in our breed unless all of those seizure-free dogs are counted.

**In 2025, you will get a survey asking how many PBGVs you have owned since 2010 and how many of those have experienced seizures.**

You will answer this question even for PBGVs who are no longer living. The PBGVs of tomorrow depend upon you taking a few minutes to answer this survey. Your answer will go directly to Dr Muñana and will be confidential.

Owners of dogs that have experienced seizures will get a second, more detailed survey. The investigator will determine if there are similar clinical signs in affected dogs and whether the problem has a genetic basis that can be used to identify specific DNA markers for the disease. This will help owners of newly diagnosed dogs to know what the future holds. Collecting pedigrees and blood samples will help reduce the incidence of this disease in future generations.

This **PBGV specific study** on seizures is made possible by your donations. Thank you!

Your donations to the Health & Rescue Foundation of PBGVCA today ensures that the breed has a healthy tomorrow.

Learn how you can make a tax-exempt donation here: <https://pbgvhrf.org/donate>.