



# Young Labrador Retriever

*Labrador Retrievers are a gentle, intelligent and affectionate breed. You should also know they can be predisposed to the following ailments. Examinations twice a year and routine diagnostics to catch problems early, when they are easiest to treat, are recommended for the life of your dog.*

## Hip Dysplasia

### Description

Hip dysplasia is an inherited condition leading to malformation of the hips and usually arthritis. It can lead to related conditions in the elbow. Early treatment is key in managing this condition.

### Early Detection

**Recommended:** orthopedic exams twice a year. Radiographs typically at 2 years of age or earlier if signs develop.

### Why Needed

Hip dysplasia can contribute to:

- Pain
- Arthritis
- Lameness
- Reduced mobility
- The need for surgery

## Anterior Cruciate Ligament (ACL) Tear

### Description

The cruciate ligaments are muscles that hold the knee joints together. If they get torn it is very painful and allows the knee joints to slide back and forth. This is the most common orthopedic injury in active dogs with a straight up and down hind leg structure.

### Early Detection

**Recommended:** orthopedic exams twice a year. Your veterinarian may also discuss weight management as a preventive measure.

### Why Needed

An ACL Tear can contribute to:

- Pain
- Arthritis
- Reduced mobility
- The need for surgery

## Otitis

### Description

Otitis is the medical term for ear infections. Ear infections can be caused by allergies or lifestyle (ex. swimming). Labs are more likely to get recurring ear infections because the large exterior part of the ear (the pinna) blocks circulation of air, and can trap moisture in the ear canal.

### Early Detection

**Recommended:** otoscopic exams twice a year.

### Why Needed

Otitis can contribute to:

- Pain
- Itchy, smelly ears
- Hearing loss
- Bleeding ears
- The need for surgery

## Optimum Wellness Plans® and Labradors Included in the Essential Wellness Plan

- Orthopedic examinations twice a year\*
- Otoscopic examinations twice a year\*

\*Part of the comprehensive examination

Plus the  
preventive care  
in each plan and  
10% off on nearly  
all products and  
services

Consult your Banfield medical team for the best plan level for your individual pet.



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