

## Considering Health Concerns with Shelter Dogs

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*By Joanne YohannanSVP, Shelter Operations, North Shore Animal League America*

Q. Is there a higher risk of health concerns with rescue dogs?

A. Whether a dog or puppy is rescued or obtained through another means, there will always be a chance of health concerns. For instance, many expensive purebred dogs have genetic health issues that can be extremely expensive to manage. On the other hand, Mixed Breed animals are commonly found in shelters and because of their diverse gene pool, they generally experience fewer health issues. Still, there are always expenses that are associated with being a good pet owner.