Funded Study: Treatment of Canine Appendicular Osteosarcoma
University of Illinois Cancer Care Clinic and Comparative Oncology Research Laboratory

Study Title
Evaluation of Orally Administered mTOR Inhibitor Rapamycin in Dogs in the Adjuvant Setting with Osteosarcoma

Purpose of the Study
Pulmonary metastasis continues to be the major cause of mortality among human and canine patients with osteosarcoma. A series of investigational agents will be evaluated in dogs with appendicular osteosarcoma with the hopes of identifying new drugs that help dogs live longer after being diagnosed with osteosarcoma. Rapamycin is a drug that may help slow down the progression of cancer cells, by blocking a pathway that helps cancer cells grow and opening up a pathway that promotes cell death. In doing so we hope that rapamycin would slow the spread of osteosarcoma to different parts of the body, most commonly the lungs. It is hoped that slowing the progression of osteosarcoma will result in longer survival of dogs diagnosed with osteosarcoma. Should you decide to enroll your pet into this clinical trial, your dog will receive standard of care therapy, which includes amputation and four doses of carboplatin given once every three weeks. After your pet completes the carboplatin therapy they will begin receiving rapamycin, which will be given once daily at home Monday–Thursday for up to four months.

Inclusion Criteria
• Dogs with histologically or cytologically confirmed appendicular osteosarcoma
• Dogs must be at least 25 kilograms in weight
• Dogs cannot have been treated with chemotherapy, radiation therapy, or bisphosphonates
• Dogs cannot have any evidence of metastatic disease
• Dogs cannot have any significant co-morbid illness affecting the kidney, liver, or bone marrow

Eligibility Diagnostics
Prior to study entry, pet owners will be financially responsible and required to have the following diagnostics performed on their pet: 1) Screening blood work and urinalysis; 2) thoracic radiographs and abdominal ultrasound; 3) cytologic or histologic confirmation of appendicular osteosarcoma.

Treatment
All dogs enrolled will receive standard of care, which includes limb amputation and systemic chemotherapy. Some dogs will go on to receive oral rapamycin at home for four months.

Compensation
The study will pay for $1,800 for amputation and $200 per chemotherapy treatment. All additional costs associated with the investigation will be paid for by study funds, which include all costs directly associated with scheduled recheck visits (drug administration, hospitalization, and blood work) during the entirety of the study period. Pet owners will be responsible for initial diagnostics performed to confirm study eligibility (see Eligibility Diagnostics, ~$700).

Contact Information
Please feel free to call Rebecca Kamerer at (217) 300-6453 or Dr. Timothy Fan at (217) 333-5375 to refer a patient or for any additional information. Referring veterinarian and client calls are welcome.