Partially Funded Clinical Trial
for Soft Tissue and Injection-site Sarcoma in Dogs and Cats

**Study title:** Optical coherence tomography for surgical margin assessment: The cutting-edge for feline injection-site sarcomas

**Purpose of the study:** To evaluate a new imaging method to detect cancer cells left behind following removal of soft tissue or injection-site sarcomas in client-owned dogs and cats undergoing surgery. This technology is used successfully in human breast cancer surgery, providing microscopic assessment of surgical margins within minutes. Identifying a rapid and thorough imaging method to detect any remaining cancer cells during surgery for sarcomas, especially feline injection-site sarcomas, will support targeted treatment management decisions and improve outcomes for cats and dogs with cancer.

**Inclusion criteria:** We will be enrolling 10 dogs and 35 cats for inclusion of this study.

**START DATE November 1, 2015.**
- Cytology or histopathology confirmation of soft tissue sarcoma or injection site sarcoma
- Dermal, subcutaneous or muscular tumor location
- Animal owner committed to surgical excision of sarcoma

**Treatment:** Dogs and cats will undergo surgery to remove their tumor, following removal the tumor will be scanned with optical coherence tomography to assess the surgical margins for residual cancer cells. The specimen will then undergo thorough histopathological assessment.

**Benefits or risks:** Following tumor removal, the tissue will undergo a thorough assessment for residual cancer. The results of this assessment will be reported to the primary clinician for notification of the referring veterinarian and the animal owner. There are no associated risks for the animal for the optical scanning of the tumor after removal.

**Incentives:** Pet owners are financially responsible for all costs associated with evaluation and surgery. Each pet owner will receive $200 credit to their Veterinary Teaching Hospital account to cover the costs of the histopathology evaluation.

**Contact information:** Please feel free to call Michelle Jaeger 217-333-5311 to refer a patient or for any additional information. Inquiries from both veterinarians and clients are welcome. Owners may schedule appointments by calling 217-333-5300 and requesting a new appointment with Soft Tissue Surgery.