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ILLINOIS
Veterinary Teaching Hospital
COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

Study: Serum IL-31 measurement in dogs with cutaneous lymphoma and their pruritus response to Cytopoint

University of Illinois, College of Veterinary Medicine, Veterinary Teaching Hospital

Study Title: Measurement of IL-31 in dogs with cutaneous epitheliotropic T cell lymphoma, its association with pruritus and the use of Cytopoint as an antipruritic treatment.

Purpose of Study: Humans as well as dogs with cutaneous epitheliotropic T cell lymphoma (CETL) often suffer from intense pruritus which can cause significant morbidity and can affect quality of life. Pruritus is reported to affect up to 88% of CETL human patients, or even more in late stage disease. IL-31 has been found to be increased in the serum of CETL human patients and to correlate with itch severity. Pruritus can be variable in dogs with CETL and it has been observed in up to 40% of cases.

The objective of the study is to measure serum IL-31 expression in dogs with CETL and evaluate its potential association with pruritus and disease severity. Also, to evaluate the use of Cytopoint, a monoclonal antibody against IL-31, as an antipruritic treatment for dogs with CETL and associated pruritus.

Inclusion Criteria:

Histopathologic diagnosis of cutaneous epitheliotropic T cell lymphoma confirmed by a board-certified pathologist.

Medications withdrawal time include:

- 2 weeks for antihistamines, essential fatty acids and topicals containing steroids or pramoxine
- 4 weeks for oral steroids, oclacitinib and cyclosporine
- 8 weeks for injectable steroids

Dogs receiving chemotherapeutic drugs can be enrolled if they have been treated for at least 4 weeks at the time of enrollment.

Procedure / Treatment:

Pet owners will not be charged for any procedure or treatment.

- One-time blood draw (3ml) for IL-31 immunoassay
- Cytopoint injection will be applied subcutaneously (one-time treatment)
- Pet owners will be asked questions for pruritus and clinical severity assessment at three different time points.

Contact Information:

If you are interested in enrolling a patient in the study, please email or call Dr. Souza at cpsouza@illinois.edu or 217 300 9446. Referring veterinarians and client calls are welcome.